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# VILLAGE SHOPS HIT BY GASWORK WOES

**WHAT'S ON & WATCH**  
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**DICKENS OF A TIME:** A Broadstairs literary tour

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## KASABIAN BY THE SEA

Top band Kasabian will play Margate Winter Gardens this month. The five-piece rock act are one of the UK's biggest live draws and releasing a new album in the summer.

The Margate date, on Monday, March 23, will serve as a warm-up for the band's biggest-ever live shows at Wembley and Cardiff's Millennium Stadium later this year.

Tickets will sell out fast, so book as soon as possible by phoning the Winter Gardens on 01843 296111.

■ BY TOM BETTS

TRADERS in St Peter's say roadworks are losing them so much custom that their livelihoods are threatened.

Work to lay gas mains is under way on roads in the heart of the village, meaning routes in have been restricted or closed completely, confusing both motorists and pedestrians.

The pipe-laying was due to begin on Monday, February 16, but it eventually started on the Wednesday, meaning two extra days of misery for traders.

Many of those with businesses in the village feel their customers are confused and fear that business may never return.

Nina Lonton runs Nina's Café in the High Street.

"My trade has dropped significantly since the roadworks began," she said.

"I've seen a drop-off of about 200 per cent during my coffee hours, from mid-morning to lunchtime. It's not a good situation to be in.

"The work has to be done, but there seem to be signs everywhere and I don't think people know what is going on. The bus route has had to be changed, too, which has not helped."

The work is being carried out by Morrisons Utility Services on behalf of Scottish Gas Networks (SGN) and is due to be completed in eight weeks. A bus service that brings people in has also had to be re-routed.

Barbara Reynolds runs the Pets Pantry with her husband Colin, the premises doubling as a fruit and vegetable store.

She has had to throw away fresh produce

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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#### TOP TV CLIPS



**1** The importance of recycling during the credit crunch. See the community channel and search 'crunch'



**2** All aboard as the direct Ashford to Brussels route is restored. See the community channel and search 'Brussels'



**3** Modern-day Bag Lady takes to the streets of Maidstone. See the community channel and search 'bin'

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# Villagers united to defeat plans for gambling arcade

BY TOM BETTS

BIRCHINGTON has united to oppose the establishment of an arcade in its main street.

All sectors of the community have vowed to fight the plans as they fear the planned arcade would have a negative effect on their community.

From old Labour campaigners such as Bernard La Roche to shopkeepers and Tory councillors, it is hard to find a voice speaking in favour of the plans for a gambling haven.

Birchington South ward councillor Jo Roberts said: "It's a lot of people from a broad range of villagers who are against this.

"The general consensus is just that

it isn't the right place for something like that.

"Station Road is a very busy street and when shop premises do come up they're snapped up very quickly, so it would be a shame if an outlet for a local trader was not possible because of an amusement arcade.

"Birchington is a village, not a sea-side resort, and it doesn't want to be. People here don't feel an amusement arcade is appropriate."

The application is being considered by planning officers at Thanet council.

Cllr Roberts said: "It's a difficult decision for them to make as they have to abide by the regulations, but the feeling is that this is not the right place."

Petitions are being collected in the village to oppose the plans, with forms available in local shops whose owners

support the anti-arcade movement.

One petition has garnered more than 1,000 names, with hundreds more of the village's 9,800 population also signing up.

Thanet council deputy leader Roger Latchford has spoken out against the proposals.

He said: "All of the councillors are fighting this. I will speak against this at the planning meeting – it's an important issue that needs looking at in great detail.

"I've been around to see many traders – and many of them now have petitions."

Cllr Latchford added that the arcade could prove a "magnet" for antisocial behaviour.

Thanet North MP Roger Gale is also against the plans, put forward by Mr J Simmonds, of Hoo.

## 'If we don't do this work there will be problems in the future'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

because trade has fallen so dramatically.

She said: "It's absolutely ridiculous. If people think the shops are closed they might find somewhere else to go and not return. I'm having to throw produce away as it goes off."

She added: "It's a Catch 22 – the work has to be done, but why should we lose our businesses?"

A SGN spokeswoman said: "This is essential gas mains replacement work. We are investing around £55,000 in the network in the area, putting down new piping to secure the gas supply.

"If we don't do this work, there could be problems further down the line.

"We started late because other work was taking place on the diversion route and the local authority has asked us to delay our work by a couple of days."

She added: "We did letter drops to the residents and traders in the area to tell them about the work and we have maintained pedestrian access, allowing deliveries to the shops.



**NO WAY!** Barbara Reynolds and Nina Lonton say more thought should be given to their businesses

"We have been speaking to traders on the site and have team managers on site who are speaking to people who

are interested in what's happening."

The roadworks are due to finish on Wednesday, April 15.

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# Aunt's pride at Oscar victories for Slumdog

## 'Happy for Dev' says newsagent

■ BY MARIJKE COX

THE auntie of Slumdog Millionaire star Dev Patel has spoken of her delight at the success of the film after it scooped eight Oscars, including best film.

Hillie Patel, who runs Bickers newsagents in Eastry, near Sandwich, said she was pleased that people could now see a different side to India than the usual portrayal in Bollywood blockbusters.

Danny Boyle's Mumbai-based film shows the life of a young man from the Dharavi slums, played by 18-year-old Dev, who appears on the Indian version of Who Wants To Be A Millionaire.

Some criticism was received from people in India about the film's director Danny Boyle highlighting the impoverished and brutal life of the slums, with many claiming it painted a bad picture of their country.

Hillie said: "In what little we see of India in films, you don't usually see this side, but this is real and it does happen.



OUT OF THE GHETTO: Jamal Malik (Dev Patel) attempts to get the better of quizmaster Prem Kumar (Anil Kapoor)

"It's not just India, though – you get these problems in Africa, Brazil and other countries. "There is some criticism about Danny Boyle not giving the Mumbai children he used in the film enough pay, but I think everything is going the right way for them now."

When the film first hit the big screens, Hillie admitted to Yourdover she hadn't seen it as her two sons, Dev's cousins, aged nine and 13, are too young and she promised to watch it with them.

She said: "I have to say I've seen it now and I'm very pleased. I haven't spoken to Dev about it as he's been so busy. It would be good for my

boys to see it as they were born and brought up in this country and reading about the film has made them enquire about issues in India.

"Dev's grandparents – my parents – are anxious as he is only 18 and they want to make sure he is going in the right direction, but they are still so happy for him."

Asked whether there had been an increase in customers to the shop, Hillie said: "People come and visit from the surrounding villages and I know a lot of old-age pensioners are going to see the film in Sandwich.

"This is what is special about Kent – it feels like everyone's involved."

## Isle too derelict to visit, says Tim

WANNABE MP Tim Garbutt is asking a prestigious delegation from Thailand NOT to visit Thanet because it is in such a "state of dereliction and decay".

Restaurateur, marketing man and Thanet South election hopeful Mr Garbutt has been invited to the Thai Student Games at the University of Kent, where members of Thailand's royal family and the country's ambassador will be present.

Mr Garbutt, who is married to Thai woman and Surin Restaurant owner Damrong, said: "I've met the ambassador and Thai ministry several times and they're keen to visit Surin and Ramsgate, but I've urged them not to attend.

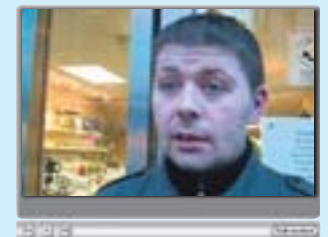
"I'm embarrassed by the harbour being blocked with sand, buildings falling down, the town hall staying undecorated and the general decay in the towns.

"As for Margate, it looks worse than Cambodia."

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How is the isle coping with the credit crunch? Search 'crunch'

## Prayers for church funds answered

AN ISLE church is to receive thousands of pounds from the English Heritage Lottery Fund.

St Nicholas Church in St Nicholas-at-Wade has been awarded £89,000 for repairs.

It is part of a £2.3 million payout to churches across the South East, £1,117,000 of which will go to Kent.

St Clement's Church in Sandwich will receive a £114,000 grant.

Michelle Davies, head of the Heritage Lottery Fund in the South East, said: "Historic places of worship are often a focus for the community, both as historic landmarks and venues for important life events."

"We are proud to be helping to secure their future by concentrating on the most urgent repair needs and so making a crucial difference to their long-term survival."

Diana Evans, English Heritage's head of places of worship, added: "Places of worship in all corners of the country are being maintained by volunteers. These buildings make a vital contribution to our national heritage, local environment and personal well-being."

In total, 12 churches in Kent will benefit from the money through the Repair Grants for Places of Worship Scheme.

## Just three months until the first town council elections

RAMSGATE now has a new town council... well, sort of.

A statutory order allowing its creation has been signed by Thanet council, although it will not have any members until elections are held in the summer.

The new authority will initially be referred to as a parish council, but members can decide at the first meeting if they want the title changed to town council, along with an elected mayor.

The new council will have 16 members, with seven wards.

These will be the same as the existing district wards and have the same name.

Central Harbour, Eastcliff and Northwood wards will each be represented by three members.

Newington, Nethercourt and Sir Moses Montefiore wards will have two members each, and Pegwell one.

The new council will be elected on Thursday, June 4, which is the same

day as the Kent County Council and European elections.

The new members will take office on Monday, June 8.

The Charter Trustees for Ramsgate, who have represented the town's civic dignity since the dissolution of the old borough in 1974, will themselves be dissolved on the same day.

Under the statutory order, the town mayor will continue in office until the new council appoints a successor.

Thanet council officers will manage the transition to the new authority, as well as allotments at Chilton Lane and Jackey Bakers recreation ground until such time as the new council decides how it wishes them to be managed.

Thanet council chief executive Richard Samuel said: "All the arrangements are now in place ahead of the elections taking place at the beginning of June."

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## Farmers' market produces the goods

THE Cliftonville farmers' market has again scooped a top gong.

For the third year in a row the market has won the Best Farmers Market in Kent award at the Produced in Kent Awards.

June Chadband, of the Cliftonville Residents Association, organises the market.

She said: "I was extremely proud to receive this award."

"I would like to thank my sons, Fraser and Matthew, and two helpers who do all the physical work from 7am on the day of the market, no matter what the weather."

"A big 'thank you' to all who voted for us this year. This is a great community effort and something positive for Cliftonville."

Local district councillor Clive Hart said: "The most sincere congratulations are due to June and Keith Chadband and their Cliftonville Residents Association for the third successive win as the Best Farmers Market in Kent."

## Seventy jobs axed at signs company

A SIGNS firm in Ramsgate has gone into administration.

Active Signs will shed 70 staff as the credit crunch claims more jobs.

Joint administrators Mark Newman and Vincent Green have been appointed by Vantis Business Recovery Services.

Active Signs went into administration on February 26. Its factory is in Leigh Road on Haine industrial park.

A spokesman said: "Limited trading continues, although 70 redundancies have regrettably been made."

Mr Newman said: "The business was sadly forced into administration due primarily to a lack of working capital."

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See how Ramsgate's library rose from the ashes. Search 'library'



## BIRTHDAY CARDS

It was all smiles at the G Casino last week as the increasingly popular venue celebrated its first birthday.

The Westwood Cross casino opened at the end of February 2008 and now has more than 100 staff on the payroll.

The birthday celebrations saw entertainment from top Kent band EKI, a special meal for revelers and an exclusive £300 poker tournament.

Sales and events manager Sherrill Hawker said: "It's been a fantastic, enjoyable year and since launching we have seen our customer base grow and grow."

"More people are choosing the casino for a different night out and word of mouth has really spread."

She added: "Now will be looking to further increase the live events we hold to add to the exciting ones that we already put on."

• Visit [www.gcasino.co.uk/thanet/](http://www.gcasino.co.uk/thanet/) for details.

# Put your best foot forward for cancer charity fun run

WOMEN across the isle are being invited to do something amazing by signing up for Cancer Research UK's Race For Life 2009.

The hugely popular event raises money for research in the battle against the disease, and the charity is asking people to pass on the invitation to friends, family and colleagues now that entry to the Margate event is officially open.

This year the Race For Life route has been changed from Quex Park in Birchington to Palm Bay in Margate.

It will take place on Sunday, July 5, at 11am.

Organisers are encouraging 1,800 Thanet women to put their best feet forward and raise a target of £122,000.

Cancer Research UK's Race For Life 2009 is the UK's largest exclusively female fundraising series. Women of all ages and fitness levels are invited to sign up for the 5km event, on which they join together and walk, jog or run the route.

■ BY TOM BETTS

Many women who take part are cancer survivors or are participating in memory or celebration of a loved one whose life has been affected by cancer.

Natasha Etienne, Race For Life area event manager for Kent, said: "We hope that everyone will accept our invitation to do something amazing by taking part in Race For Life."

"Women of all ages, abilities, shapes and sizes join in. They motivate and inspire each other to complete the 5k course. Many simply walk round, chatting and having fun, but they all share the wonderful spirit of the day."

"The number of people surviving cancer is increasing. In the 1960s, fewer than three out of ten children diagnosed with cancer were successfully treated. Now, it's seven out of ten."

"Today, more than 95 per cent of men diagnosed with testicular cancer are cured and more women are surviving breast cancer than ever before."

Isle participants will be just part of a total of 680,000 women from across the UK taking part at more than 230 events between May and July.

Cancer Research UK hopes that together they will raise £60 million to fund the charity's life-saving work.

Gloria Hunniford, patron of Cancer Research UK's Race For Life, said: "I know that for many women Race For Life holds a special place in their hearts and the determination and passion that is felt throughout the events creates an atmosphere that is truly special and inspiring for us all."

"I would urge every woman, no matter what age, fitness level or ability, to take part."

She added: "On a personal level, Race For Life is a very moving and emotional experience for me. It's now four years since I lost my gorgeous daughter Caron to cancer, but even in this short period of time treatments for the disease have improved so much."

• Women in Kent are invited to enter Cancer Research UK's Race For Life at [www.raceforlife.org](http://www.raceforlife.org) or by phoning 0871 641 2282.

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# Channel Dash war heroes are to be honoured at special dinner

A MEMORIAL dinner is to be held in honour of the airmen who took part in a famous Second World War operation.

The Channel Dash Association has announced that the Second Sea Lord has "graciously granted permission" for the dinner in the Painted Hall of the Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich.

Operation Fuller involved the interception of the German fleet as it attempted to 'dash' up the English Channel from Brest, France, to the safety of German ports on February 12, 1942.

Eighteen men of 825 Naval Air Squadron took off from RAF Manston in six slow, fabric-covered Fairey Swordfish torpedo biplanes in a heroic yet futile attempt to stop the assembly of one of the largest-ever German battle fleets.

■ BY TOM BETTS

Thirteen airmen were killed in the attack, with 27 other lives lost aboard HMS Worcester. Beatles producer Sir George Martin is vice-patron of the Channel Dash Association.

He said: "They must have known they would probably be killed in such an incredible attack. 'Some have compared it to the Charge of the Light Brigade, but this was no mistake.

"It was a deliberate sacrifice, a last-ditch attempt to prevent two great German warships from joining up with a large fleet that could destroy all our Atlantic shipping and with it the future of our country."

The dinner will raise funds for a memorial to the men involved, which will be unveiled at Manston airport on August 29 this year.

The dinner will be a VIP gala affair filled with

military pageantry, nostalgia, the premiere of a song written for the occasion and short readings to set the scene.

The evening will conclude with fund-raising activities including an auction of limited-edition memorabilia.

All proceeds from the dinner, on Wednesday, March 18, be used in support of the memorial.

Tickets for this event are limited to 300, with opportunities to buy corporate tables of 10 and 18. Tickets are available for individuals and smaller parties on shared tables. They cost £125 each, with a 10 per cent discount for parties of 10 or more.

Veterans, their families and CDA members go for £75. Tickets can be reserved by emailing [events@channeldash.org](mailto:events@channeldash.org).

To find out more about the Channel Dash, the memorial and the association, visit [www.channeldash.org](http://www.channeldash.org).

## Centre fails to win lottery cash

LOTTERY money that would have helped fund the building of the Broadstairs and St Peter's Community Centre will not now materialise.

Ian Dale, chairman of the Broadstairs and St Peter's Community Centre Trust, has revealed that its £450,000 bid has been turned down.

He said: "It is disappointing to report that we will not receive any further funds from the Big Lottery.

"Perhaps this is not surprising when taking into consideration the current economic climate and the substantial number of calls on the limited lottery funds that are available."

Mr Dale says he is still upbeat about the project going ahead and that alternative funds will have to be found to make up the £2.75 million project cost.

"The potential lottery fund allocation would only have represented 16 per cent of the capital requirement for the building of the centre," he said.

"This shortfall will need to be addressed and discussions will take place at the next trustees' meeting."



## STARS OF FASHION HIGH

Fashion-conscious students at Ramsgate's Marlowe Academy posed and preened their way along the catwalk last week. Year 10 pupils held their annual fashion show Fashionism at the school on Wednesday night last week.

The school theatre was crammed with parents and students for the show, which also included dance performances as well as the eye-catching designs, modelled by young stars.

Taking inspiration from all kinds of cultural influences, the show was the third of its kind that the academy has staged.

Designer Larnen Hawkins, 15, said of the outcome: "It was fab!"

School principal Ian Johnson, who was in the audience, said: "They've done us proud, the show gets better every year."

## Port authority's £1m cannabis haul

CANNABIS valued at £1 million has been seized at the Port of Ramsgate.

UK Border Agency officers uncovered the haul on Tuesday last week.

They made the discovery during routine checks on unaccompanied freight arrivals, finding 500kg of cannabis resin, which has an estimated street value of £1 million.

The drugs were found on a lorry coming into the country from Ostend, Belgium.

They were in a mixed load disguised as a working generator. This consisted of a large red box containing eight live car batteries wired to provide an electrical charge.

Beneath the batteries was sand with the cannabis resin underneath.

The case has been passed to HM Revenue and Customs investigators.

HMRC spokesman Bob Gaiger said: "HMRC investigators and their UKBA colleagues work closely to prevent drugs from entering the UK and harming our communities.

"Our investigations will not only focus on those transporting these drugs, but also those who mastermind and finance this illegal activity. Anyone with information about illegal smuggling activities should call the Customs hotline on 0800 59 5000."

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Friday 20th LEMAR in Concert

Monday 23rd Kasabian in Concert

**APRIL 2009**

Saturday 4th Disco Inferno

Sunday 5th The Enemy in Concert

Friday 10th & Saturday 11th Thanet Beer Festival

Saturday 18th Essence of Ireland

Sunday 19th Sooty In Space

**MAY 2009**

Wednesday 6th Rob Brydon plus support

Monday 11th Leon Jackson and Same Difference in Concert

Sunday 17th Rhydian Roberts in Concert

Tuesday 26th - Saturday 30th "A Night On The Town" M.O.S Variety

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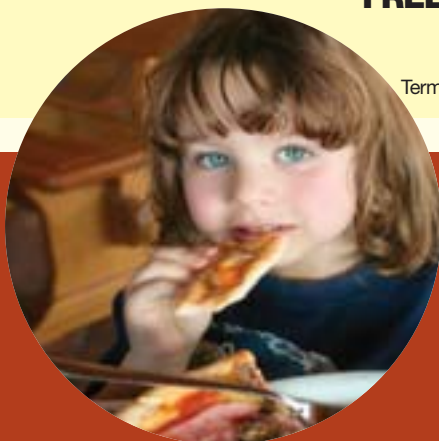
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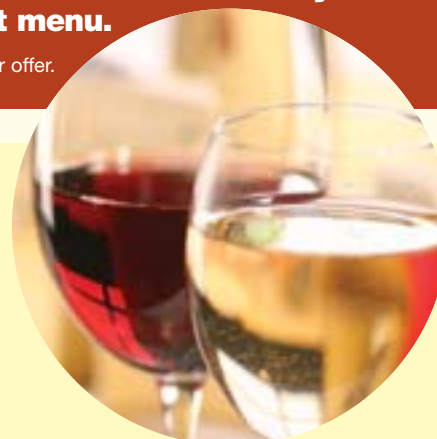
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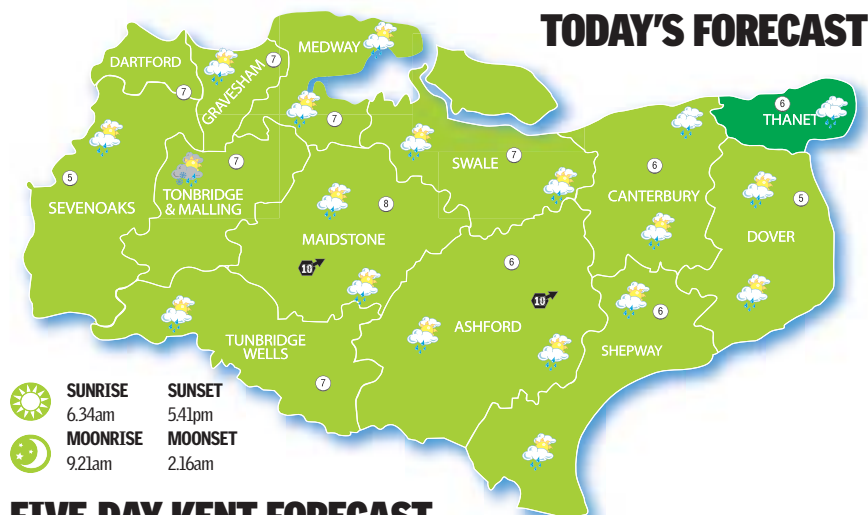
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Chatham	Saturday	9:02am	5.0m
	Sunday	10:26am	5.4m
Dover	Saturday	7:44am	5.5m
	Sunday	9:00am	5.9m
Dungeness	Saturday	7:18am	6.1m
	Sunday	8:39am	6.5m
Ramsgate	Saturday	8:14am	4.2m
	Sunday	9:30am	4.5m
Sheerness	Saturday	8:50am	4.9m
	Sunday	10:15am	5.2m
Whitstable	Saturday	9:07am	4.5m
	Sunday	10:32am	4.9m

## AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	8°C	Madrid	11°C
Athens	16°C	New York	1°C
Barcelona	14°C	Paris	11°C
Beijing	1°C	Rome	14°C
Bombay	36°C	Sydney	26°C
Cape Town	24°C	Tenerife	19°C
Cardiff	9°C	Tokyo	9°C
Gibraltar	14°C	Vancouver	11°C
Hong Kong	20°C	Warsaw	4°C
Las Palmas	16°C	Wellington	21°C

## FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	10°C	8°C	8°C	9°C	9°C	Gravesend	10°C	7°C	8°C	10°C	10°C
Canterbury	8°C	6°C	6°C	8°C	8°C	Maidstone	10°C	7°C	8°C	9°C	9°C
Chatham	10°C	7°C	7°C	8°C	8°C	Ramsgate	8°C	6°C	6°C	8°C	8°C
Dartford	10°C	7°C	8°C	10°C	10°C	Rochester	10°C	7°C	7°C	8°C	8°C
Dover	8°C	5°C	6°C	8°C	7°C	Sevenoaks	8°C	5°C	7°C	7°C	8°C
Faversham	10°C	7°C	7°C	8°C	8°C	Sittingbourne	10°C	7°C	7°C	8°C	8°C
Folkestone	8°C	5°C	6°C	8°C	7°C	Tonbridge	9°C	7°C	8°C	9°C	9°C
Gillingham	10°C	7°C	7°C	8°C	8°C	Tun Wells	9°C	7°C	8°C	9°C	9°C

## Margaret takes temporary role as council's chairman

THANET council has elected a new chairman. Margaret Sheldrick, the former vice-chairman, has filled the role after being elected on Thursday last week.

The move follows John Kirby's resignation from the post to take up a role on the authority's cabinet as the member for planning enforcement, planning applications, licensing and Ramsgate royal harbour marina.



Margaret Sheldrick

Cllr Sheldrick, a Conservative, will serve as chairman until the annual council meeting in May, when a formal election will be held.

She said: "I'm very humbled to be elected as chairman and I would like to thank my fellow councillors for the confidence they have shown in me.

"Having been involved in voluntary political activity for more than 50 years now, I was delighted to be able to continue that service when I retired to Thanet and I am looking forward to the next few months as chairman."

Cllr Sheldrick was elected to the council in 2003 and represents the Birchington South ward. She was previously chairman of the licensing board but has stood down from that post.

During her time in office, Cllr Sheldrick will be escorted by her husband Ray Sheldrick.

Cllr Michael Roberts is now vice-chairman.

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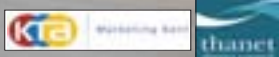
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## QUESTION & ANSWER

### NEIL KEFFORD



**Q** How did you get into radio?

**A** I wanted to be in radio from an early age. Aged five or six, can't quite remember, one day off school I was in the kitchen playing at being on the radio.

Two cassette-players, mine and my sister's, I'd turn one tune off, talk to myself and then play another song. Weird thing is, I'm pretty much doing the same thing for a job right now. The only difference, I don't do it in my mum's kitchen any more!

**Q** When is your show on and how long have you done it?

**A** My Drive Time show is on weekday afternoons. Starts at 4pm, ends at 7pm. And I love it. I've been doing it three years now. I remember the day I walked in the building for the first time, it was very exciting, and it seems like just last week. Time flies when you're having a bundle of fun.

**Q** What advice would you offer a potential DJ?

**A** Depends on which sort of DJ-ing you mean. Nightclub DJ-ing's very different from radio-presenting. Nightclubs, practise for hours on your equipment, it's all in the mix and presenting your music, with minimal speaking.

On the other hand, on the radio it's all about the speaking. Very different. If you want to get

into radio, first make sure you love it, or the idea of doing it, and then be prepared to work for nothing. I did voluntary hospital radio, it's a great place to start, you'll learn a lot and I really recommend it.

**Q** What is the best thing about presenting a radio show?

**A** It's a buzz for three whole hours, and you know it is because the time just flies by. There's not a moment you can take your eye off the ball – you have to concentrate and when things work out the way I planned, it's a brilliant feeling. Add to that the great phone-calls and texts I get from listeners, all good stuff.

**Q** What is the worst?

**A** When it all goes wrong and listeners look at their radio and think you're a plum. I try to laugh it off, saying that "Yes, I am stupid". I'm not the most technical guy in the world, so sometimes it's a bit of a struggle. Too many buttons, not enough brain!

**Q** How much planning goes into an average show?

**A** I plan every show carefully. I know, listening to it, it can be hard to believe! But everything that happens on the radio has to be carefully timed. Time is very important. So knowing what you're going to do and when

you're going to do it is very important, too. I write everything down and the trick then is to make it sound conversational. Sometimes I manage it better than others.

**Q** Do you look to emulate another DJ's particular style?

**A** There is one guy who I thought was, and still is, a brilliant communicator. He also has a similar sense of humour to me. It's Simon Mayo. He had a superb breakfast show back in the late 80s and early 90s – it was just the best thing I'd ever heard. It was that that made me realise the job I was doing at that time was not what I really wanted to do. What I really wanted to do was radio, just like Simon Mayo.

**Q** What are your hobbies and interests?

**A** Sport, any sport. I don't play anything now, but I love to watch sport. I used to play a lot of rugby. I was OK, as well. So that is my sport of choice, but anything will entertain me.

**Q** Where in Kent do you live?

**A** I live in Thanet. I've been in Kent for the three years I've been at Invicta FM. But I've been to Kent a million times, not least, of course, because I married and divorced a Kent girl: Sharon from Margate... you might know her?

**Q&A** Invicta FM DJ Neil Kefford talks to **Tom Betts** about his early love of radio from practising in his mum's kitchen, the constant buzz of being on air and what he does when the buttons get the better of him

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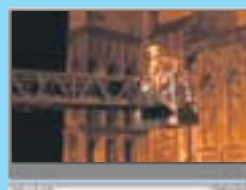
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## EDITOR'S CHOICE

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# News merger turns off ITV's viewers

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

HUNDREDS of TV viewers across Kent have vowed to switch off ITV Meridian after the station merged three news areas into one.

The ITV Meridian South East show has been combined with the Thames Valley and South shows into a single "pan-regional" broadcast.

The super-region reaches a population of eight million people, 12 county councils, 86 MPs, 60 district councils – from Dover to Oxford and Medway to Portsmouth – and seven international airports.

Kent viewers have taken to ITV's message board in their hundreds to complain about the move.

Angela Fyfe, one of more than 500 viewers to hit out at the new show online, wrote: "The news area covered now is far too large. Nobody in the Kent area is interested in Southampton, West Sussex and so on, and I am quite sure all viewers feel the same."

"You will lose many loyal local news watchers by these changes, please think again."

"That Ginger Guy" added: "Cringeworthy television at its best. I don't bother with ITV with news any more."

"It's dreadful that you thought of saving money by making local news no longer local or watchable."

"PGC" wrote: "I have tried to be patient and give the new-look programme a chance. But I'm afraid it has lost not only its identity, it has also lost its sparkle, personality and charm."



**BROAD-CAST:** Fred Dineage and Sangeeta Bhabra bringing you news from Southampton and Basingstoke

"The audience is there for a local news programme – but this isn't it. If ITV want to save money, this is not the answer, why drive your audience away?"

ITV's online editor Jonathan Marland said the combined ITV Meridian news bulletin – with East and West segments – had come as a result of "economic realities".

He wrote on the ITV website: "The changes have all been made against a background of massive upheaval in British broadcasting. In a nutshell ITV had an obligation to make regional news as part of the original conditions of its broadcasting

licence. But those conditions have been relaxed as a result of the huge number of digital stations now competing for advertising revenue, and the credit squeeze."

"This is all part of a big national debate about public service broadcasting and who should pay for it. The problem is that PSB is expensive and cannot be maintained on a purely commercial basis."

"The Government is promising to come up with a solution soon."

"In the meantime economic realities have forced changes across the whole PSB landscape."

## University of Kent opens up a world of study in Brussels

The University of Kent markets itself as the UK's European University. It has partnerships with colleges in Germany, Spain, Austria, France and for more than ten years it has been running its own small campus in the political heart of Europe. Reporter **ED HILL** paid them a visit.

ONE small floor of an office block in Brussels is a hive of academic achievement that reaches out across the entire world.

The small institution caters for around 200 students keen to make a career in the world of international politics and diplomacy.

The city is the ideal location for the University of



**CONTACTS:** Marty Gaal Kent's School of International Studies due to its connection with many of the world's largest political organisations, such as the EU and NATO.

John Macgregor, dean of the school, said: "We have been here for ten years. It started off with a dozen students so it has had tremendous growth."

The courses run at the institution specialise in international relations and law, as well as many other topics. All the courses are aimed at post-graduate students.

Most of the students that attend the school come from overseas, with the majority coming from America and Canada.

Marty Gaal, 35, from Vancouver, said: "I had been living in Asia for six or seven years and needed to come back to do a PhD and I wanted to come to Europe. To find an English speaking university in Brussels met all my requirements."

"The course here has meant I have been able to make lots of contacts. I worked with the European Parliament and a consultancy firm."

The MA courses generally run for one year and have expanded to include conflict analysis, international economics and migration studies.

The University of Kent has also announced it is setting up courses in humanities for postgraduate students in Paris.

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# Feast your eyes on foodforkent.co.uk



■ BY CHRIS BRITCHER

KOS Media – publisher of this newspaper and the award-winning Kent on Sunday – has this week launched a major new campaign for 2009 to help boost the county's economy.

Our Buy Local Produce campaign is spearheaded by the launch of [www.foodforkent.co.uk](http://www.foodforkent.co.uk) a one-stop shop allowing you to order local online, and have it delivered to your door.

We have teamed up with a host of local suppliers to make choosing fresh vegetables, fruit, fish and meat a breeze.

What's more it's cheaper than you may expect and offers the



added benefit of every penny helping boost our local economy.

It forms a key part of our campaign which looks to raise awareness of shopping locally for delicious, locally produced, food and drink.

The campaign is being supported by Produced in Kent – the non-

profit organisation supported by both Kent County Council and Hadlow College – which promotes and assists local suppliers and products.

Doug Wanstall is one of the county's best known farmers. From his land in Aldington, near Ashford, he has developed a reputation as one

of the county's foremost suppliers – particularly in free range eggs.

He explained: "Look at France. They hardly know there's a recession there. They all drive French cars, holiday in France, eat French food, drink French wine. Its national economy supports itself.

"If we did that in Kent – if we visited the tourist attractions here, we buy local food, we drink local wine, in short, if we used all the services we have here, we, as a county could pull ourselves out of this recession quite quickly.

"I believe by supplying the likes of FoodforKent.co.uk we are helping redesign the food supply chain in Kent."

It follows hot on the heels of our Go Green – Read It Free On Screen campaign – which promoted online editions of our range of award-winning newspapers and supplements saving paper and making our free newspapers even better value.



## Basket price comparison

Sample baskets contain: Granary bread, two pints milk, 4 x 150ml yoghurts, 4 x Spitfire Beer (500ml), 500g Red Grapes, 1kg Gala apples, 1kg Conference pears, 4 x oranges, 1 x large mango, 1kg clementines, 2kg potatoes, 1kg onions, 1kg carrots, 1 x Savoy cabbage, 1 x red cabbage, 1kg broccoli, 500g purple sprouting, 1 x cauliflower, 600g chicken thighs, 500g pork sausages, 250g back bacon, 500g braising steak. Date: 24 February 2009. Source: mysupermarket.com. Closest match applied. Excludes Express and Metros. Excludes delivery charge. Red number indicates price difference.

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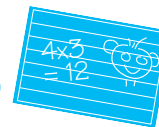
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**GRADUATING:** Sixth-formers from Thanet visited Canterbury Christ Church University to learn about careers in the public service. From left, Lucy Milner-Homewood, Julie Douglas, Kirsten Cox, Michelle Druce and Hannah Otterson

## Students see a gateway into higher education

ISLE pupils considering a career in one of the public-service professions have taken part in a range of health-care, policing and education sessions at Canterbury Christ Church University.

The sixth-formers, from Hartsdown, St George's and Minster College, are currently participating in the University's Gateway programme.

It aims to encourage more young people to continue their studies in higher education and increase their chances of finding their dream job.

Those who participated in the policing session learnt about the principles of the law in England and Wales as well as classification of offences, hearsay evidence, PC power of arrest, human rights and right to free legal advice.

The pupils working with the University's health and social care team focused on life support, adult nursing, speech therapy, child health and public health.

Young people who were interested in a career in teaching looked at how digital media can be utilised in the classroom for

■ BY TOM BETTS

learning. For example, the students took photographs around campus and then focused on how their images could be used as a learning/teaching resource.

The pupils received support from mentors – selected guidance students from Canterbury Christ Church University's Salomons Campus.

At the end of the project, the guidance students will work with their respective groups to talk about careers and training.

They will particularly focus on whether the young people will consider higher education as an option or a future career in one of the public-service professions.

Dr Kathy Gouch, Canterbury Christ Church University's academic lead for the project, said: "This programme is a brilliant way of providing a taste of university life to young people who may not otherwise consider themselves eligible for higher education."

"As well as presenting to them a sense of what a university environment could offer and some of the resources available, it also gives an insight into possible future careers and an idea of what training providers have to offer."

### BREAK TIME



**LEARNING ROLE:** Ian Crosher and drama students

### Pupils put bullying issue centre stage

DRAMA specialist Ian Crosher and youngsters at Charles Dickens School in Broadstairs have worked on a series of mini-plays on an anti-bullying theme.

Students played out a series of roles which explored all aspects of bullying, how it can escalate from simple teasing, the perception of bullies and victims, and how to resolve the problems.

Sandra Leal, head of Cobham college at the school, said: "The year seven and eight students who worked with Ian found it such a valuable experience. It gave them the chance to look at issues around a very important topic."

### Film club reels in the young critics

IT may not be the Cannes film festival or a Hollywood premiere, but the red carpet is being rolled out at St Peter's junior school.

It heralds the start of a club to enthral, entertain and educate a new generation of film fans. The weekly film club opened on Thursday, January 15, and pupils enjoyed a screening of the blockbuster Prince Caspian with a healthy supply of popcorn to complete the experience.

The after-school club is part of a programme of extended school activities that won praise from Ofsted inspectors and is linked to the national educational Love Film initiative. Children watch a different film each week and then have access to a website on which they can read reviews by other children and schools and input their own reviews.

The initiative also has film industry links and on Tuesday, January 27, the St Peter's pupils will meet Sim Evan Jones, a film editor who worked on Shrek I, II and III, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, Prince Caspian and Madagascar.

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# yourthanetblogger

Tory councillor Chris Wells says that a rejuvenated community centre is breaking down barriers



## Making a difference to lives is one of the perks of the job

ONE of the more difficult questions politicians get asked is: how can you be sure anything you have done has made a difference?

Sometimes the answer is easy: representing parents at school appeals, transport appeals, benefits advice, advocacy at rent tribunals, grants to local organisations – all have a clear image of where and how you have helped.

Sometimes it is less obvious, yet somehow more important. For example, the half-term step-out project at St Paul's community centre.

The project brought together young people to create a dance routine with professional musicians and dancers. The end product was a vibrant and energetic 15-minute routine, greeted with acclaim by the audience on the Friday evening.

What was less clear was the two-year-plus lead-in time that brought everything together.

I met Nicky Goulder, the founder of Create, the charity which brings professionals to work

with communities, three years ago and knew that this service could help young people in Thanet.

However, at the time, St Paul's had neither the capacity nor facilities to host an event.

I had to support the trust and help it refurbish facilities in a number of ways. This included the Stronger Safer Communities Board, KCC local board funding schemes, help in placing the new children's centre in the building opposite, that kind of thing.

Anyone who has seen this facility in recent months will know just how much it has improved and how much the community has valued that change.

We also needed to have access to parts of the community with whom we may not have natural links.

This came through the work of the Kent Refugee and Minority Group, where the brilliant Beth Denning has established excellent relations with some of the minority groups.

Again, the Stronger Safer Communities Fund has provided the basic finance and

proved just what a worthwhile investment has been won from Government for our area.

Only then can one offer to run a project which would help combat suspicions and unwillingness to mix between cultures.

But mix they did; in dancing, in music, in the sheer joy of working and achieving together to perform in front of proud parents and families.

And what did those enthusiastic young people ask?

Can we do it again, but for longer, with more performers and a wider stage?

So when you ask if I have made a difference, those comments are the icing on the cake.

The bread and butter is the day-to-day improvement in relations between communities united under the pressure of the difficulties they share, rather than the differences they perceive.

**EDITOR'S NOTE: All blogs are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.**

### GET IN TOUCH...

We want to hear your views



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### LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering, contact the editor, **Dave Mairs**, on 01303 817022, or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Thanet blogger, then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of about 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town, log on to [www.yourthanet.co.uk](http://www.yourthanet.co.uk).

Write to The Editor, Yourthanet, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

\* We cannot guarantee all articles will be published and all are at the editor's discretion

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To apply or find out more: e-mail [info@kmn-ltd.co.uk](mailto:info@kmn-ltd.co.uk) or telephone 01303 297050 or SMS Text to 07976 596913. Closing date for expressions of interest: 16 March 2009

[www.thekentlink.co.uk](http://www.thekentlink.co.uk)

#### Central Office

Kent LINK, Unit 24 Folkestone Enterprise Centre, Shearway Road, Folkestone, Kent, CT19 4RH

Tel: 01303 297050

SMS text: 07976 596913

E-mail: [info@kmn-ltd.co.uk](mailto:info@kmn-ltd.co.uk)

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As well as this fabulous prize our team of energy-saving experts provides some top tips on how to save money on your energy bills and help the environment:

- Insulation – draw curtains at dusk to stop heat escaping and reduce draughts
- Washing – avoid drying washing on radiators as it makes your boiler work harder and wastes energy
- Cooking – use just enough water to keep vegetables covered and use a lid
- Appliances – turn off your TV as leaving it on standby wastes energy
- Kettles – use a jug kettle with a water gauge and only boil the amount of water you need.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Age Concern Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR.

**Question: How much are gas customers guaranteed to get for an annual cold weather payment?**

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If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry. Closing date is March 26, 2009.

To find out more about the Age Concern Energy Services call free on 0800 404 5010, or online at [www.ageconcern.org.uk/energy](http://www.ageconcern.org.uk/energy).

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**ALL TOGETHER NOW:** Music and Drama Festival committee members are united by a shared love of the arts

## Bringing out the best in isle's rich array of talent

THE Thanet Music and Drama Festival started last week and runs through to Tuesday, March 24. This week, festival committee members talk about what the festival means to them.

- Marie Holton, vice-president: "Thanet Music and Drama Festival gives an opportunity to share interests with like-minded people and to receive inspiration from professional adjudication."
- John Myhill, chairman: "The festival offers an excellent opportunity for people of all ages to display their talents and gain some idea of their capabilities."
- Maxine Wright-Moore, honorary secretary: "The festival enables me to encourage people of all ages to develop and showcase their talents. I enjoy devoting my spare time to it each year."

- Lynn Myhill, publicity: "Having always been interested in the performing arts, I love this festival, which encompasses them all and which sees entries from all ages."
- Ben Jones, instrumental convenor: "Watching talented amateurs every year at the festival is inspiring, while the adjudicators' fascinating comments help us learn more about the various performing arts."
- Ray and Ruth Tamulevicius, dance convenors: "Our reward after putting the programme together is to see the kids enjoying themselves and having fun while dancing on stage in front of their families."
- Andrea Sinclair, speech and drama convenor: "The festival gives the local community an opportunity to entertain and demonstrate their skills while also receiving constructive feedback."
- For details of the Thanet Music and Drama Festival and to book tickets, visit [www.thanetfestival.org.uk](http://www.thanetfestival.org.uk), or phone 01843 600059.

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# yourletters



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**EMAIL:** Email us your letters to us at yourthanet@kosmedia.co.uk

## Home turbines shape of things to come?

I am keen to install a wind turbine on top of my house in Birchington.

I wonder what other residents in Thanet think.

Several of my neighbours are equally keen for such an exciting project.

If I stand at my front door and look left, I see the wind farm off Whitstable and if I look right I see the proposed site north of Margate where an even bigger wind farm is intended.

We in Birchington and Thanet are ideally situated on the north Kent coast.

I think turbines on our roofs may initially look unusual, but our forefathers had to come to terms with chimney pots on their homes.

As a child I well remember the strangeness of television aerials.

Now our eyes and minds find such technology almost acceptable.

I am slowly seeking planning permission for such turbines from the council, but the Government and manufacturers have yet to decide on an 'acceptable noise level'.

I am equally keen for the National Grid to accept excess electricity from the turbines.

Such a development will be a wonderful inheritance for our children, together perhaps later with potential energy enhancement from wave-power in the nearby North Sea.

Once the turbine, under the shadow of my solar panels, is successfully installed, residents of

## YOUR LETTERS

Thanet will be welcome to visit, discuss, meditate and enjoy the view.

**Chris Powell**  
Birchington

## Take a logical view over airport growth

Like D Lane in last week's Yourthanet letters, I support the development of Manston airport.

I won't reprise the excellent and valid points made.

I will add that we have an exceptional level of academic attainment in Thanet, yet most of our educated young people have to leave the island in search of commensurate employment.

An expansion of the airport will provide more employment opportunities at various skill levels.

I would ask all the opponents of Manston's expansion one simple question: "Do you fly?"

If the answer is yes, then other people somewhere have to put up with your plane taking off over them.

The people of Ramsgate and the outlying villages must have cast-iron guarantees that any expansion will not cause more noise and environmental pollution, preferably less, and that night flights will be severely restricted.

With new aircraft operating from a successful airport, noise levels will be a lot less intrusive than passing heavy motor vehicles. Let's have a little perspective.

To guarantee that Ramsgate

First loses a few more votes, I would suggest that Mrs Bennett (also last week's letters), who is thinking of voting UKIP, does so.

She thinks that Geert Wilders, a Dutch conservative MP who deliberately provokes Muslims by insulting their religion, should be allowed to express his inflammatory views here at the invitation of UKIP.

We in Ramsgate First believe in freedom of speech, but freedom without responsibility is charlatanism and UKIP, as I have discovered, is particularly well-practiced in this art.

Ramsgate First is a broad-minded, inclusive, non-ideological party, Mrs Bennett. Not for you, perhaps.

**Gerry O'Donnell**  
Ramsgate First

## What about some loyalty to Thanet?

The most fascicle remarks in the Manston airport debate have to be:

a) Why move to Thanet knowing there's an airport there?

b) The airport was there before you, so why are you commenting?

In answer to the first, many of the people unhappy with the airport's development were born and bred on the isle.

And even if they weren't, why should they not be allowed to add to the debate when operating practices at the airport are likely to be changed?

As for the second remark which we hear oh so often, well, almost all of

us were here before Manston operator Infratil turned up, so maybe it is them the opinion police should be trying to gag.

Why don't the airport diehards show more loyalty to the people who live in Thanet rather than to a company from the other side of the world?

The same could of course be asked of our lapdog council.

**Mick Davies**  
Broadstairs

## Child-care report is interesting reading

I have been reading with some interest Mr Peter Gilroy's comments on children who end up in care in Thanet.

It was the Labour-led Thanet council from 1995 who demanded County Hall provide statistics to show how many children fostered or cared from in Thanet came from other areas, including the rest of Kent.

Only when we pushed at Quality of Life meetings and later at a public meeting at the Winter Gardens did we feel we were getting anywhere.

Mr Gilroy's 2004 report is valuable and should not only be looked at by his Conservative bosses at County Hall when an election is imminent.

In the meantime we might all like to think about why children end up in care and the adults who have failed them.

**Cllr Iris Johnston (Labour)**  
Margate Central

## Cllr Wells ticks the right boxes for me

When I cast my vote for an elected representative, there are a number of things I expect from them in protecting my interests as a voter.

Among them is holding officers to account for their efforts and expenditure of my council tax in ways that improve my quality of life and tackle the problems important to me.

I also want to be reassured that I have cast my vote for the right person, rather than the other available alternatives.

Having read Chris Wells's recent opinion piece in Yourthanet's sister paper Kent on Sunday on the difficulties in Cliftonville, followed by the response from a senior officer being held to account, and a political opponent crying foul, I think Cllr Chris Wells has more than proved he is worthy of being our representative currently, and would urge all who have the chance to cast their votes for him and his honesty in the forthcoming county elections in June.

**Susan Sharpe**  
Margate

## Does Fairtrade really make a difference?

We seem to be hearing a lot about Fairtrade in Thanet at the moment.

However, I believe that we need to be aware of what Fairtrade actually is in practice. How fair is

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Fairtrade, for example?

It appears to offer a small number of farmers a higher price for their produce, but it seems that this comes at the expense of the majority of farmers.

An increasing number of experts believe that Fairtrade actually keeps farmers poor by holding back diversification and that this in turn denies future generations the chance of a better life. Are they right?

Does the consumer in Thanet know how much Fairtrade produce ends up in non-Fairtrade goods?

How many local consumers know how much of the premium goes to the producer and whether or not those who push the Fairtrade concept locally get paid to do so?

Open trade is the most effective poverty reduction strategy.

If we want to increase international development we need to end barriers to trade.

Fairtrade, like all protectionist ideas, is the last thing that we need in a recession.

I am sorry if do-gooders don't like it, but I won't be taking my family to any of the un-Fairtrade events. Open markets or nothing.

Simon Davies  
Broadstairs

## New library deserves to be appreciated

I found Gerry O'Donnell's letter about the new library in Ramsgate a complete shame.

Due to the fire, Ramsgate lost a vital resource, one that will take a lot of time and effort to restore.

Some of the books lost in the fire were not bought – they were donated and are therefore irreplaceable.

To detract from all the hard work that has been put into rebuilding is unfair.

I love the new-look library and my son thought the children's section was great.

T Cousins  
address withheld

## ... and I think it will attract the tourists

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate all those connected with the rebuilding of the magnificent new Ramsgate Library on its original site.

Firstly a word of mention for the tireless Jocelyn McCarthy and the Friends of Ramsgate Library who have campaigned for the library's rebuilding and spent much time and effort fund-raising.

Secondly a word of appreciation for the artwork from pupils of Clarendon House Grammar School, which has contributed to the truly stunning stained-glass window.

I'm sure that not only will the library be a great resource but it could also prove to be something of a tourist attraction.

Bob Barrass  
Ramsgate

## Labour should stop writing about Laura

South Thanet Labour Party is clearly orchestrating a letter-writing campaign to complain about Laura Sandys's excellent initiatives taken in relation to the 56 bus route, the need for a pedestrian crossing in Queen Street Ramsgate and the saving of post offices from closure.

It was after a meeting at Maidstone when Laura put in no uncertain terms the impact that stopping the 56 bus would have on, in particular, the elderly that KCC decided to change its mind.

Vyeson House residents have said that Laura did not 'jump on the pedestrian crossing bandwagon' but initiated the Queen Street campaign.

The leading consumer group for post office customers has said that Laura's supporting documentation sent to Royal Mail was pivotal in persuading them to keep the Cliffs End post office open.

We are thrilled to have a candidate who is more about action than press statements, more about getting results for residents than criticising others. Maybe the Labour Party should take a leaf out of her book.

Lynne Connolly  
Chairman, South Thanet Conservatives

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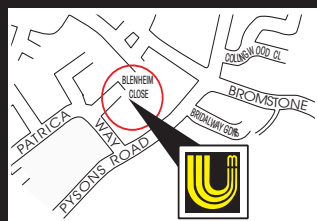
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# yourleisure



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Spectators are promised an even bigger and better event than ever before, with lots of attractions and thrilling racing to keep people entertained both days.

Racers will be battling for glory on the one-and-a-half-mile Moto Cross-style course, built with the help of Ovenden Plant Hire in the sands beneath the promenade. Spectators can enjoy excellent viewing of the action as they look down on the racers.

At the time of writing, the busy schedule of racing is due to start with a parade of riders making their way along the promenade to the beach at 9.30am on Saturday and again on Sunday, setting the wheels in motion for two days of exciting competition.

Practice begins at 10am, followed

### QRA MARGATE BIG SKY BEACH CROSS WEEKEND

Saturday and Sunday, March 7-8  
Margate Main Sands

by qualifying heats or racing from 10.30am. The country's top adult and youth quad and adult solo riders will be chasing the coveted Margate title at full throttle, with events running until 5pm both days.

After all the excitement of the races, the Grand Finale will be held on the Sunday. The top riders from each quad class will race each other to determine the fastest racer on the sands. The presentation of awards is due to take place at 4.30pm on Sunday.

On Saturday night, DJ Stumpy will host a social evening for competitors and their guests at the Smiths Court Hotel in Eastern Esplanade, Cliftonville, from 8.30pm.

The QRA – Quad Racing Association – and Margate Town Partner-

ship have been working hard to create a fun weekend for all the family.

There will be trade stands for petrol-heads to indulge their passion and lots more off-beach entertainment. If the exhilarating racing leaves anyone in the mood for some adrenaline-fuelled thrills, there will be fairground rides to keep the screams and laughs coming.

Best of all, admission to the event is free. With no charge for spectators, the QRA Margate Big Sky Beach Cross is a recession-beating day out for all the family.

Since it began in 2007, the event has proved phenomenally popular with racing fans and attracted a lot of media interest.

With only riders and officials having access to the sands, every inch of the beach can be used to create an exciting and challenging course in a relatively small area.

For more details about timetables, the event's history and other helpful information, visit the website at [www.margatebeachcross.com](http://www.margatebeachcross.com).

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## ATTACK! ATTACK!

Friday, March 6  
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FANS of power punk-rock should not miss the chance to see Attack! Attack! in action this week.

The up-and-coming band from Caerphilly are rising stars on the UK music scene and have become favourites of rock magazine Kerrang!

They have toured with other acclaimed Welsh

bands such as The Blackout, Funeral For A Friend and Lostprophets, as well as English pop-punk band You Me At Six, and they appeared at numerous festivals last year.

Attack! Attack! will close their current co-headline UK tour alongside Tonight Is Goodbye with this headline gig in Margate before they head off to play a Kerrang! festival in Texas.

Kent ska-punk band Tyrannosaurus Alan will be opening the show and the

entertainment continues with Eleven:Eleven, a Thanet-based catchy rock band who have toured with the likes of Elliot Minor.

Main support is supplied by ska band The Skints, who are renowned for their excellent live shows. Soon they will be joining a big name in US ska, The Slackers, on tour.

The show is for over-14s and tickets cost £8 in advance. To book, phone 07530 795612, email streetvoiceuk@yahoo.co.uk, or visit [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com).

## DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER

Thursday to Saturday, March 5-7  
Granville Theatre, Ramsgate



A FOOLPROOF alibi turns from convenience to chaos in the comedy Don't Dress For Dinner.

East Kent Productions, in association with Michael Wheatley-Ward, presents Marc Camoletti's play about an adulterer who gets more than he bargained for.

When Bernard decides to send his wife Jacqueline off to her mother's house for the weekend, he is looking forward to a cosy weekend with his mistress, the attractive Parisian model and actress Suzanne.

But his perfect alibi – arranging for posh catering and inviting his friend Robert to dinner – lets him down when Jacqueline's trip falls through and more deceptions are uncovered.

The play is directed by Jane Danes with settings by Philip Shaw. Cast members include Laura Bolder, Harkus Copper, Matthew Danes, Susan Laverick, Andrew Nolan and Hannah Wise.



Performances start at 7.30pm daily, with a 2.30pm matinee on Saturday. Tickets are priced from £8 if bought in advance from the box office on 01843 591750.

Today (Wednesday) Friends of the Granville Theatre and members of the Sarah Thorne Theatre Club can attend a dress-rehearsal preview. Phone the box office.

## DEIRDRE CARTWRIGHT

Friday, March 6  
Harbour Cafe Bar, Margate



ACCLAIMED jazz artist Deirdre Cartwright will be visiting Thanet with her trio this week.

Cartwright is one of just a handful of female jazz guitarists who are internationally noted for their talent, with critics keen to praise this remarkable artist.

On the release of her latest album, Tune Up Turn On Stretch Out, The Observer's critic commented "if there is a more complete guitarist in contemporary music than Deirdre Cartwright, I'd like to know who it is".

Following in the footsteps of her grandmother, an opera singer and pianist, Cartwright learned to play the piano as a child. But this moved to second place in her affections when she discovered the guitar.



Picture: PAUL SHERWOOD

In the 80s she became a familiar face to television viewers by presenting the BBC's Rock School, which attracted two million viewers each week and subsequently screened worldwide.

Cartwright will be performing

with Alison Rayner on double-bass and drummer Simon Pearson. Doors open at 7.30pm and tickets cost £25, including a three-course supper. To book, drop into the Harbour Cafe Bar or phone 01843 290110.

## THANET LEISURE

### Show you care at the Winter Gardens show

AN ARRAY of local entertainers will be performing in aid of the QEOM Hospital's Cancer Care Appeal this week.

The show will be at Margate Winter Gardens at 7.30pm on Friday (March 6) and 6.30pm on Saturday (March 7). Tickets cost £6/£3, with party rates available for the Saturday show. Phone the box office on 01843 292795/296111, or visit [www.margatewintergardens.co.uk](http://www.margatewintergardens.co.uk).

### You'll be laughing all the way to the theatre

GET your laughing gear around another selection of top comics at The Comedy Club on Thursday.

John Ryan will be on compere duty at the Theatre Royal Margate, sharing his acerbic wit. Adam Crow, praised by Ricky Gervais, is also in the line-up, along with headline act The Raymond and Timpkins Revue. Tickets cost £10; to book, phone 0845 130 1786 or 01227 787787.

### Church choral sounds will repair your soul

ENJOY a choral concert by the Phoenix Singers at a church in Ramsgate on Thursday.

The group, who formed in 2001, will be conducted by Adrian Perkins. The concert will be held at St Laurence Church in the High Street, starting at 7.30pm.

Admission is free and there will be a retiring collection for church repairs. For more information, phone 01843 592478.

### We suspect live music will be a great night

GET ready for a great evening of live music in the company of The Suspects.

The four-piece covers band play songs in the indie/alternative/rock genres. To find out more about the band, visit the website [www.thesuspects.co.uk](http://www.thesuspects.co.uk).

The Suspects will be playing at the Churchill Tavern in The Paragon, Ramsgate, at 9pm on Saturday (March 7). For details, phone 01843 587862.

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# yourthanetstyle



**BEFORE AND AFTER:** Reporter Erica Jones when she arrived at the Saks Hair and Beauty salon (inset); and (main picture) after her pampering session, which included foot massage, facial, head massage and haircut

## Pure Saks appeal

THERE are worst ways to spend my morning than meeting Emily and being carefully guided through an array of potential beauty treatments.

After a 'lifestyle consultation' – which involved discussing my bad eating habits, 'beauty regime' and problem areas (dark circles under tired eyes), Emily recommended the rather exhilarating-sounding anti-ageing visible brilliance facial. It would, she explained, help my eyes while also doing lots of lovely things to rejuvenate and tone the skin. Who was I to complain?

Now, call me naïve, but I always thought a facial was, well, face-centric... yet before anything touched my cheeks, I was treated to a quite remarkable foot massage.

If ever there is a way to get someone relaxed, this is it. It was a hot-lime foot-cleanser and my tired, abused feet were very grateful for the attention. I was almost sorry when Emily stopped to begin the work proper.

The facial itself used the popular range of Elemis products, a British brand which, it claims, can 'awaken the senses' while making you look and feel like a million dollars.

It involved a variety of beautiful-smelling creams, before a cool, but strangely pleasant, facemask was smoothed over my face. While this was left to set, my head was massaged before the mask was gently peeled from my face, taking all the dead skin away with it. A second mask was applied to nourish the new,

fresh-er skin with nutrients and vitamins to leave me with a refreshed glow to my complexion. The treatment was complemented with a hand and arm massage to give time for all that goodness to soak in.

By the time it was over I was impressed to notice a real healthier glow to my skin – especially my troublesome eyes.

Regardless of that, however, the experience was worth every penny (treatments cost £59-£65) just for the inner peace and calm it brought me.

As someone who's used to simply asking for her split ends to be tidied up, I found it a novel experience to have a full consultation, with careful questions regarding my own hair-care regime before we even began talking about the cut.

Like most, I'm reliant on my straighteners, and manageress Sam highlighted the impor-



To search for shopping, services, leisure and entertainment log on @  
**yourkenttv.co.uk**

This year Saks Hair & Beauty celebrates 35 years in business. We sent **Erica Jones** along to discover the secret to its success and endure several hours of pampering all in the name of investigative reporting.



**TOTAL RELAXATION:** Elemis products were used for Erica's facial and left her skin with a noticeable healthier glow, especially around her 'troublesome' eyes

tance of treating my heat-damaged locks with TLC and recommended my session began with a professional Kerastase instant ritual mask (£6) to help revive the hair.

This was applied while I was having my hair washed (with added bonus of a head massage thrown in). We also discussed what I wanted from my haircut (£37-£45). Not ready for anything too different, I asked for a bit of a tidy-up. My hair can suffer sometimes from being a bit uncontrollable, and Sam was able to suggest layers would help tame it – a move which has proved to be beneficial, with my hair much easier to style.

During all the snipping we further discussed my hair-care regime, with Sam providing me with tips for nurturing my hair through the winter months.

Not only are intensive cleaning products (she recommended the L'Oreal professional range) and a good heat protector spray a necessity, but it turns out that washing my hair daily is a little too much, a welcome thought when it means I can have an extra five minutes in bed in the morning.

I can also confidently add that as I write five days later my hair, rather remarkably, still feels as soft as when I left the salon, so that mask really did do the trick.

**SAKS** has two salons in Kent, both offering a range of treatments and staffed by experienced beauty teams. From facials to waxing, hair removal to hair extensions, they have treatments to suit most budgets.

Our reporter visited the Maidstone branch, which is part of the David Lloyd Fitness complex in Lockmeadow. The other branch is in Kings Hill.

• Saks Hair & Beauty, David Lloyd Fitness, Barker Road, Maidstone, ME16 8RG. To book an appointment, phone 01622 663233. Or Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling, Kings Hill, ME19 4UA, phone 01732 843 445. Website: [www.saks.co.uk](http://www.saks.co.uk).

## THANET SHOPPING

### It's essential you check out these super deals

IMPROVE your image as well as your health with a range of offers on some lifestyle essentials available at Superdrug.

The store's own brand of A-Z multi-vitamins and minerals is now £4.99 for a bottle of 90, or 30 tablets of Glucosamine and Chondroitin are available at £7.49.

Naturals Cranberry and Pomegranate Shower Gel is £1.49, down from £1.99.

To find out more, go to [www.superdrug.com](http://www.superdrug.com), or visit your nearest store in Margate High Street.

### Curl up with an Oscar winner from WHSmith

OSCAR-winning book titles are available at WHSmith.

The book of the massive British feel-good hit Slumdog Millionaire by Vikas Swarup is now £7.99 in paperback. The Reader, the film of which saw Kate Winslett win best actress, is also £7.99.

Take home a copy of The Curious Case of Benjamin Button for £5.99.

For these great reads, get down to WHSmith stores in Margate, Ramsgate, or Westwood Cross.

### Bargains are a Brit of all right at music store

TITLES by BRIT Award-winning artists like Duffy and Kings of Leon are on sale at HMV.

The store is selling Duffy's Rockferry CD for just £4.99 and the KOL album Because of the Times is the same price. Elbow's outstanding Seldom Seen Kid disc is also a steal at £4.99 and Sound of Girls Aloud is now just £2.99.

Boogie on down to HMV at Westwood Cross to please your ears with these bargains, or go to [www.hmv.com](http://www.hmv.com).

### Time for teens to get a New Look for spring

TEENAGE girls can get the latest funky styles in the newest range to New Look.

Girls will be racing to the store to pick up a pair of skinny-fit jeans for just £16 and a neon city print tee for £8. Cutesy bow-design ballet flats are £12, or canvas plimsolls £8, depending on your style.

Finish off the look with a black knitted boyfriend cardigan for £14 and a chain-link headband, £4. Visit [www.newlook.co.uk](http://www.newlook.co.uk), or go to your nearest store at Westwood Cross or Margate High Street.

### Do the smart thing for your wardrobe today

DRESS up with Bon Marche's David Emmanuel range.

The store is offering smart, desirable outfits in sizes 10-22 which are perfect for a spring wardrobe. Ladies can pick up a fully-lined black jacket for £35, a cotton blouse for £16 and a machine-washable and fully-lined sateen mac for £40.

For more information or to see the complete range, visit your nearest store in Margate High Street, or alternatively go to [www.bonmarche.co.uk](http://www.bonmarche.co.uk).

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# yourthanetmusic

## Bands prepare to beat it out in festival play-off final

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

FOUR bands will contest a festival-themed battle of the bands final next weekend – with the winner earning the right to play alongside Brit pop heavyweights Supergrass.

The winner-takes-all final will take place at Folkestone's new Quarterhouse venue on Saturday, March 14.

Dartford-based rock outfit Burgundy and Canterbury folk-rockers Waterhorse will join The Little Philistines and Monday Street, both of London, in the play-off for a place on this year's Sellindge Music Festival main stage bill.

Thoughts of sharing a backstage arena with the likes of Supergrass are but one performance away for one of the bands.

And they know the pressure to perform is now on.

Waterhorse frontman Terrence Reis said: "Whoever takes the final will have had to fight for it and play their hearts out."

The Little Philistines added that sharing the line-up with Supergrass would be a dream come true, saying: "They inspired more than one of us to pick up the guitar for the first time."

"It would be an honour to share a stage with Gaz' chops."

The Battle of the Bands contest was staged at the Frenchman in Folkestone over two nights in January and February.

The four finalists were picked from ten competitors, who had been hand-picked from hundreds of hopeful applicants.



Festival manager Benjamin Wells said the standard had been exceptionally high.

He said: "All ten bands that competed gave an amazing live performance."

"Deciding on the finalists was incredibly difficult but we made the right choices and have a truly special line-up for the final."

Sellindge Music Festival – now in its second year – takes place from Friday, June 5 to Sunday, 7.

The festival line-up already boasts the likes of Mickey Slim, Eddy Temple Morris and Brandon Block.

No acts have as yet been confirmed for the acoustic or introducing tents and Supergrass are the only band unveiled as playing the main stage.

For more information visit [www.sellindgemusicfestival.co.uk](http://www.sellindgemusicfestival.co.uk).



**BATTLE OF THE BANDS:** Waterhorse (top) and The Little Philistines (above) are two of the bands hoping to share the Sellindge festival spotlight with Supergrass

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**MUSE ON THIS:** The Suspects live at The Elephant & Castle in Ramsgate



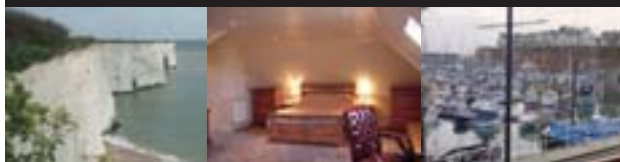
**THE ETHER:** Lucy Kitt speaks to Charley Vines about how her music career began



### TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Los Salvadores – 14/3 Ivy Leaf Sheerness
- 2 Kayley Weller – 21/3 The Half Moon Hildenborough
- 3 The Suspects – 11/4 The New Inn Minster-in-Thamet
- 4 Dorcia – 17/4 TW Forum Tunbridge Wells
- 5 The Suspects – 10/5 Churchills Ramsgate

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## YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

 **FRIDAY NIGHT WITH JONATHAN ROSS**  
BBC One, 10.35pm, Friday

 **AL MURRAY'S MULTIPLE PERSONALITY DISORDER**  
ITV1, 9.30pm, Friday

THE controversy surrounding Jonathan Ross and Russell Brand last year was only ever going to do one thing – increase interest in both personalities and their subsequent projects.

While the furore claimed Brand's radio job, the more established star managed to get off with a suspension and keep his multi-million-pound contract alive.

The return of his late-night talk show, which is by far Britain's most popular, was eagerly anticipated.

Many wondered if the host would be able to continue with his risqué humour and close-to-the-bone interview style, which has proved so successful, or whether he would tone down matters.

Perhaps it was a question that was always going to be a non-starter, because Ross really does know only one style, which I'm sure will please his legion of fans.

What has been a welcome change, though, is that his maddening habit of constantly talking about himself has dropped away a little.

During the last series, and the many that have gone before, it had become a show about the man himself rather than the guests.

Almost every conversation inevitably ended up being about Ross rather than who was sitting beside him, no matter how big the star.

With all the fuss now dying down, the show seems to have benefited from the break and a more humble,



**TALKING IT UP:** Ross has toned down his chat show antics after finding himself in hot water

slightly less self-obsessed Ross is actually a much better interviewer.

And, after all, that is what a chat show is supposed to be all about.

So if the cloying banter had led you to switch off before, the show is worth revisiting for a second look.

I can't say that Al Murray's Pub Landlord character ever really split my sides.

Mildly amusing maybe, but not the genius comic creation that some would have you believe.

Murray has scored his own sketch show on the back of the continued success of the pint-pulling, xenophobic anti-hero, though, and it started last week with a patchy affair that showed both dashes of promise and disappointment.

As a Perrier Award-winner, Murray can count the likes of Steve Coogan and Lee Evans among his peers, but it will be interesting to see if he can throw off the shackles of his best-known character, show he is more than just a one-trick pony and pull off a more varied endeavour.

## YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



**AQUARIUS** (Jan 21-Feb 19)  
DON'T be surprised if romantic sparks fly between you and someone you meet over the next few days; they're attracted by your unusual outlook on life. If you're already in a relationship, your partner will see a pleasant change in the way you act think and love.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



**TAURUS** (Apr 21-May 21)  
LOOKING back on a difficult relationship puts your current situation in perspective. You're starting to see a trend. By avoiding the sort of people who have made your life miserable, you'll reach the lifestyle you've always desired. It's important to steer clear of martyrs.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



**LEO** (Jul 24-Aug 23)  
RECONSIDER the values you have held dear for the past few years. It's possible they are no longer practical or realistic. Be ready to explore different points of view. Going back to the religious and cultural practices of your ancestors could throw a light on your views and values.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



**SCORPIO** (Oct 24-Nov 22)  
YOU have a rare opportunity to go back and correct some old mistakes. A female employer may be very impressed with your work. Don't be surprised if she offers you a good job. It's also possible that an old boss will ask you to come back into the fold.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



**PISCES** (Feb 20-Mar 20)  
MONEY that was owed to you some time ago could finally be repaid. Use it to get something you've always wanted, but didn't dare buy. You're long overdue for some luxurious treat that you don't necessarily need, but desperately want. If you're stumped for ideas, ask a loved one.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



**GEMINI** (May 22-Jun 22)  
GETTING back in touch with an old group of friends will be lots of fun. These people will remind you of a time when you had much bigger dreams. Maybe this is a sign you need to champion some of those goals anew. You're not the type who can rest on their laurels.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



**VIRGO** (Aug 24-Sep 23)  
IT'S a good time to look at your finances and think about your future, especially if you're in a relationship. You need a nest egg to feel safe. Given this need, it's wise to open an account in just your name. You can still contribute to a joint fund, but having your money own is important.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov 23-Dec 21)  
TAKING up a creative project you left ages ago is a wonderful idea. You hate leaving things unfinished. Getting back into the habit of writing, painting, or playing music will awaken something deep inside you. You can't afford to let this side of yourself grow stale.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



**ARIES** (Mar 21-Apr 20)  
YOU can get back to your fighting weight, it's just a matter of discipline. Post an attractive photo of yourself in a prominent spot. Every time you catch sight of this image, you'll be reminded of your goal. Arrange to give yourself a small reward each time you reach a target.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



**CANCER** (Jun 23-Jul 23)  
YOUR boss may review your job description so don't be surprised if you are presented with a whole new set of responsibilities. They might not involve much creativity or imagination. Perhaps this is a sign you need to move on to greener pastures.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



**LIBRA** (Sep 24-Oct 23)  
SOMEONE from the past could make a comeback into your life. Work out whether this will be good for you. After all, you've made tremendous progress since you parted company with them. You must admit, you have a tendency to put your needs aside for the sake of others.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22-Jan 20)  
GOING through photo albums and mementoes will bring back some great memories. You have the opportunity to forge the life you always deserved and desired. Get into the habit of treating yourself to things you missed out on when you were younger. Make up for lost time.  
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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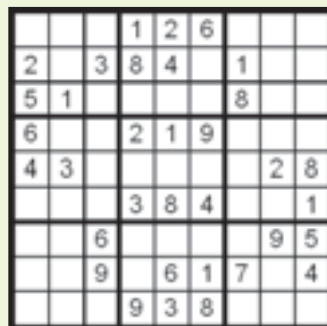
# CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

No77

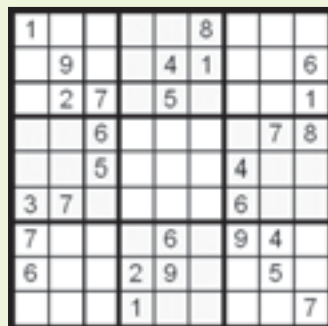
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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

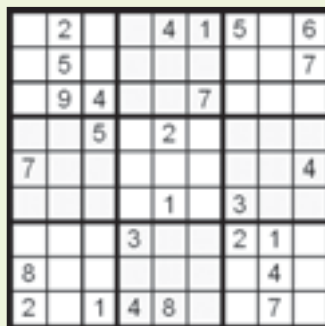
EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



## CRYPTIC CLUES

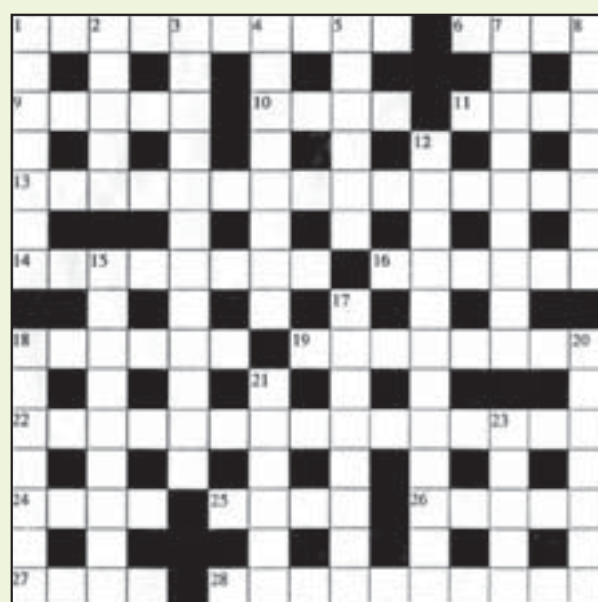
### ACROSS

- 1 Two requirements for the game (10)  
6 William's account (4)  
9 In disuse upper part of exhaust (3,2)  
10 This ran unsuccessfully (4)  
11 Basil, say, had some sherbet (4)  
13 Safely stored in gaol (5,4,3,3)  
14 Clean below the line (8)  
16 More correct-sounding scribe (6)  
18 Caprice by Virginia and Gareth (6)  
19 Invoice for earlier one, say (8)  
22 Among the medals during preceding quarter presumably (2,3,5,5)  
24 Girl had half a lump twice (4)  
25 Old from the year 500! (4)  
26 A doctor in the British Isles initially had a deer (5)  
27 Not about, stuck, puzzled with pointed tooth (4)  
28 Missive that's uncalled-for (4-6)

### DOWN

- 1 Sent, say, for bunch of flowers (7)  
2 Place almost fixed (5)  
3 Where to sell things out of the country (6,6)  
4 Born lazy, involved with heraldry (8)  
5 UK, alas, exchanged capital! (6)  
7 Creakiest sort of performer at the rink (3-6)  
8 One attempting to influence the small hall hesitantly (7)  
12 Unrewarding version of a blueprint (12)  
15 Drug one's put underneath this computer (9)  
17 Was chairman before team started drifting (8)  
18 Shortly have piece inserted into small bloodvessel (7)  
20 Retailer did not start arranging workshop (7)  
21 Succession of clinking sounds in catchy rhyme (6)  
23 Send timer off (5)

## SCRIBBLE HERE



## QUICK CLUES

### ACROSS

- 1 Long-eared American hare (4-6)  
6 River Thames at Oxford (4)  
9 Small medieval fiddle (5)  
10 Warships (4)  
11 Rotate (4)  
13 Action that will lead to conflict (9,6)  
14 Greenhouse (8)  
16 In flower (6)  
18 Outwit (6)  
19 Quarter-circle (8)  
22 East African antelope (8,7)  
24 Frame of mind (4)  
25 Poultry bird (4)  
26 Adored (5)  
27 County in western Ireland (4)  
28 Castle defence (10)

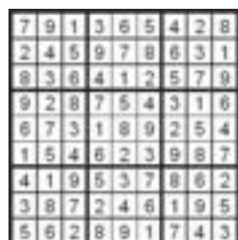
### DOWN

- 1 Biblical city (7)  
2 Small party (5)  
3 Seesawing toy (7-5)  
4 Outlawry (8)  
5 Originate (6)  
7 Nervous Pa (anag.) (9)  
8 Ray (7)  
12 Excellent thing or person (5-7)  
19 Collection of poems (9)  
17 One-storey house (8)  
18 Most favourable (7)  
20 Altered (anag.) (7)  
21 Done in a building (6)  
23 Very angry (5)

# LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

## SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No76

EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



## CRYPTIC SOLUTION No76

ACROSS: 1 Anjou 4 Made sure 8 Pick of the bunch 10 Off-limits 11 Egypt 12 Ayow 13 Unzip 17 Meteoric 18 Halt 22 Skull 24 Eyestrain 25 Question-master 26 Infernal 27 Yodel. DOWN: 1 Amphora 2 Jack Frost 3 Utopia 4 Matrix 5 Dressing 6 Souvenir 7 Rocky 9 Stud 14 Play-acted 15 Coalesce 16 Limekiln 17 Mist 19 Tendril 20 Fennel 21 Steady 23 U-turn.

## QUICK SOLUTION No77

18 Optimum 20 Treadle 21 Indoor 23 Lavid. Bobby-dazzler 15 Anthology 17 Bungalow 5 Invent 7 Supernova 8 Sunbeam 12 Jencho 2 Cabal 3 Rocking-horse 4 Banditry Loved 27 Mayo 28 Drawbridge. DOWN: 1 27 Thomson's gazelle 24 Mood 25 Fowl 26 Orangery 16 Abloom 18 Outfox 19 Quadrant Navy 11 Spin 13 Collision 6 Isis 9 Ribc 10



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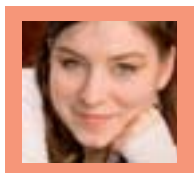


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## WOMEN seeking men

### TAKE ME FOR WHO I AM

Hi I'm Sam, 22, looking for a relationship. I'm blonde, have brown eyes, love cosy nights in and cinema, looking to share a relationship. Box 447871

### BLONDE BABE LIKES FOOTIE!

Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

### GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Sober girl, 28, loves pubs, social drinks, meeting new people & more, seeks similar male, 58-62, for a lasting relationship. Box 448756

### BRING ME SUNSHINE

Outgoing, fun female 28, seeks outgoing, fun guy to make me laugh and share the good times with. Box 882511

## A NEW FUTURE!

I'm Rachel, 35, medium, enjoys pubs, clubs, cosy nights in, cinema, theme parks, looking someone special to share times with. Box 448591

## SOUND GOOD?

Hello I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship with. Box 447595

## ON A ROLL!

Hi, I'm Alison, 36, 5ft5, single mum, loves swimming, roller skating and meeting new people, looking for a male for friendship, maybe leading to more. Box 448865

## CLOSE ENCOUNTER

Loving, caring, tactile female, 36, 5'8", blonde hair, blue eyes, N/S, GSOH, likes cinema, bowling, country pubs, nights in, seeks male for friendship and LTR. Box 827619

## LOVE TO LOVE YOU

Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term, serious relationship. Box 438102

## MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

Good looking woman, 37, 5ft2, brown hair/eyes, 2 kids. Looking for new friends, and hopefully someone special. Box 446039

## TRY ME

Ashford-based woman looking for an honest, friendly, caring, and loving man. I have 2 kids, and enjoy the usual things in life. Box 446965

## YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive 39yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walks, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship, relationship. Box 901893

## EYES ON YOU

Hi I'm Jenny, 40, love reading/writing, going out, astrology, cars; seeking honest, caring, outgoing guy to enjoy music, fun, friendship and more. Box 449181

## THE SIMPLE THINGS...

I like reading/writing, going out, music. Seeking kind, genuine, honest chap; I'm a 40yr old woman who enjoys the simple things in life. Box 448542

## COME ON DOWN!

Honest, bubbly female 45, long hair, slim, enjoys walking, cinema, socialising; seeks honest, friendly chap for friendship/more. Box 882693

## COULD IT BE YOU?

Hi I'm 44, slim, 5ft8, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889800

## HI EVERYONE, I'M

Debbie, 46, slim, 5ft5, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for a man, 44-49, 5ft7+, with a nice appearance, preferably a N/S. Box 449422

## SOUND GOOD?

Hi I'm Lynne 46, 5ft4, dark hair/eyes, love reading/writing, going out, astrology, cars; seeking honest, caring, outgoing guy to enjoy music, fun, friendship and more! Box 449186

## BE MY FRIEND AND LOVER

Bubbly, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal guy. Box 442952

## ENTERTAIN ME

Female, 50, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular wining, dining, loving and laughter, must be honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854

## JUST IMAGINE

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easy-going single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, W/LTM genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562

## BE MY GUY

Young 50s lady, slim, 5ft4, fair hair, a smoker, loves music, going out, cooking, gardening, seeking similar loving, caring, honest male. Box 449288

## HERE AND NOW

Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box 449524

## FOR KEEPS

Hi I'm Karen, 50, medium build, 5ft, separated, devoted mum, looking for friendship with someone who likes dining out, evening walks, and perhaps something lasting... Box 882618

## CARING & PROFESSIONAL

Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings Box 417100

## YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU CALL...

Young looking, hard working 53yr old living in East Sussex. I am a happy, caring person with a good sense of humour. Non-smoker. Heathfield. Box 883410

## FRIENDSHIP, HOPEFULLY MORE

Feminine woman, easygoing, caring, 45, long brown hair, blue eyes. I love music, eating out, reading/writing, drives, weekends away. W/LTM boyish female. Box 442848

## LOVING AND GENUINE

Female, early 60s, tall, slim, modern, young thinking & very adaptable to people, own house, loves animals, walking & eating out. Hastings. Box 440502

## Women seeking women

### IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS

I'm a 26yr old female, looking for new friends, maybe that special girl...let's have a meal and a drink and see what happens! Box 448722

### LOVE TO LOVE

Easygoing female, 40, blue eyes, blonde hair, medium build, likes wining, dining, socialising, holidays, walks cinema; seeking likewise female for companionship and more. Box 446953

## THIS STATE OF INDEPENDENCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156

## BE WITH ME

Honest and caring female, 44yrs old, enjoys pubs, cinema, theatre and more, seeks a kind, caring gentleman for friendship & romance. Box 449181

## GENUINE REPLIES ONLY

Bubbly female, 44, brunette, N/S, medium/large, enjoys singing and theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 445955

## HOLDING OUT FOR A HERO

London near to the area, 57, 5ft5, slim attractive blonde, seeking a man for serious relationship and lasting happiness. Box 449587

## DREAMS OF YOU

Genuine, caring lady, late 50s, slim & young looking, looking for a loyal, considerate, N/S male for long term relationship. Box 446566

## WALKS ALONG THE COAST

Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622

## HAPPY AS ME

Fun-to-be with, happy, contented lady (60), 5ft4, I enjoy theatre, dining out and having friends round for a meal, gardening and pets. Box 882812

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## LOVING AND GENUINE

Female, early 60s, tall, slim, modern, young thinking & very adaptable to people, own house, loves animals, walking & eating out. Hastings. Box 440502

## Anything is possible

Ar-loving 40yr old, 5ft9, brown hair/eyes, into motorbikes and thrill-seeking, looking for a trustworthy female for friendship to start off with, then who knows? Box 448928

## LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR

Outgoing, young-minded male, 47, smoker, likes games, books, cinema, castles, places of interest, seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Box 443750

## THE FIRST STEP...

Attractive mixed race male, 41, 5'10", likes chatting, travel and music. Looking for a female in the Kent or London areas. Box 882345

## THE WIND BENEATH YOUR WINGS

Guy of 40, outgoing, fun, tall, told I'm handsome, easygoing, looking to meet a nice, attractive lady to sweep off her feet. Box 883376

## MAKE IT A LOVELY DAY

Hi, I'm Carl, 40, GSOH, 6ft, light green eyes, brown hair, looking for a fun, bubbly woman to share laughs, days out and much more. Box 436696

## STANDING ON OUR OWN FEET

Hi there, I'm a 42 year old male, 6ft, with brown hair/blue eyes, sincere, caring & thoughtful, OHAC, seeking female with independent mind for love. Box 884870

## TO LOVE SOMEBODY

Loving, tactile, genuine, considerate male, 42, life of the party, loves swimming, music, cinema, reading, W/LTM the girl to spend great times with... Box 449450

## GET LUCKY

Gentle male, 42, brown eyes, medium build, works hard, own place, seeking similar female, own place, hassles/ies, to enjoy cinema, conversation, eating out with love. Box 444952

## THE PERFECT RELATIONSHIP?

Dad with great SOH, 29, 6ft, dark hair blue eyes, slim, loves music, cars, bikes and socialising, looking for girl for fun and more. Box 449334

## COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, HOPEFULLY MORE

Curvy & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5ft7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, W/LTM similar loving male. Box 443642

## A COMPANION FOR LIFE?

Blonde lady, 56, 5ft5, medium build, attractive, devoted mum, ready to start dating again and seeking male who loves travel, theatre, walks, cinema and more. Box 448449

## LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

Smart petite lady, 56, 5ft4, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795

## MAKE ME SMILE AGAIN

Seeking genuine lady, I'm a 38yr old male, 5ft8, dark hair/blue eyes. I work hard and play hard, would like to enjoy spare time with partner. Box 449649

## HOP ON!

Hi, I'm Mark, 6ft, slim/medium build, lots of interests including motorcycles, W/LTM a kind and honest female to share fun times and laughter with. Box 445124

## EVERYTHING I DO

Lee, driver, 36yr old, 6ft3, dark hair, like pubs, clubs, wine bars, places of interest, sports and reading, W/LTM a woman for friendship and romance. Box 889723

## TRUSTWORTHY

Margate man, 37, 6ft3, dark hair, nice big build. I work in residential care which I love. I'm down-to-earth, kind, tactile, with a GSOH. Box 423437

## R U 4 ME?

Down-to-earth, loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, leading to a long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company, conversation, cosiness & romance. Box 914917

## ROMANCE, COMPANIONSHIP?

Me, 39, 5ft6, blond hair, blue eyes, hard working, friendly, loves films and music, sports, football, karate...W/LTM nice, slim, attractive lady for meals and more. Box 449167

## FOR DIVORCED

Divorced devoted dad, 39, into motorbikes, bikes, football, socialising, travel; seeks similar woman with good heart for potential romance. Box 448687

## ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Ar-loving 40yr old, 5ft9, brown hair/eyes, into motorbikes and thrill-seeking, looking for a trustworthy female for friendship to start off with, then who knows? Box 448928

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## FOR LOVE

Hard-working male, 29, 5ft10, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, plays harder! Likes going/eating out, walks, pubs, loves life, seeking similar happy, trustworthy lady. Box 442752

## WORD FOR WORD

Honest, caring male, 35, 5ft11, short dark blond hair, blue eyes, med build, seeking loving, loyal, honest black female for fun, friendship and hopefully LTR. Box 448581

## A DEVOTED DAD SPEAKS

Young guy who enjoys life, 36, likes wining/dining, music, movies and nights in, looking for someone to share my life with, hopefully more. Box 449502

## NICE TO MEET YOU

Genuine single guy, 37, worked hard all my life now needs to play hard, seeking loving lady, to have loads of fun and more with. Box 449538

## MAKE ME SMILE AGAIN

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## GET LUCKY

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## KING OF HEARTS

Very romantic male, 44, fair

## ON GENERAL RELEASE

### GRAN TORINO (15)



Walt is a racist Korean War veteran. When Thao, the teenage son of his Asian neighbours, is caught trying to steal Walt's car, he is forced to work for Walt to regain his family's honour.

### THE INTERNATIONAL (15)



Clive Owen stars as Interpol agent Louis Salinger, who, together with Assistant District Attorney Eleanor Whitman, sets out to bring the world's most powerful bank to justice.

### FRIDAY THE 13TH (18)



A lone traveller heads to the woods in search of his missing sister. There he hooks up with a group of college kids planning on a weekend of partying. But their fun soon turns into a nightmare.

# Isla's shopped around for her first leading lady role

BY SHEREEN LOW

SHE may play a shopaholic in her latest film, but Isla Fisher says her real life doesn't imitate her art.

"I don't really enjoy shopping, I have to be honest. There's always so many people in the store, and so many choices," she says.

"More often than not, because I'm often shopping out of necessity, rather than it being a fun way to spend the afternoon, it's just me with a mission – in and out, and pick out whatever it is that I need."

The 33-year-old mother of one says she has little in common with her new character, fashion addict Rebecca Bloomwood in Confessions Of A Shopaholic, adapted from Sophie Kinsella's chick-lit bestseller.

In fact, you're more likely to catch Isla flashing the credit card for culinary gadgets than for the latest wardrobe must-have.

"I do like bags and shoes, but I'm a bookaholic at the moment, especially cookbooks," she says, grinning. "I seem to always be collecting cookbooks. It's wish fulfilment."

Just like die-hard shoppers who sometimes keep unworn purchases with their tags intact, the Australian actress finds herself in the same situation with cookbooks.

"I'm embarrassed to admit, there are a couple that haven't been opened. I buy Asian cookbooks and it's hard to find the ingredients – that's my excuse. I'm just lazy," she adds.

Confessions Of A Shopaholic marks the former Home And Away star's first major starring role on the big screen, although she has previously wowed audiences in Wedding Crashers, Horton Hears A Who and Hot Rod.

"I've been acting for a really long time and I felt, finally! I was as prepared as I could be,"



HOME AND AWAY: Isla Fisher's career has transformed

she says. "I knew I was responsible for the tone of the movie in a way I hadn't been as a supporting cast member."

"I knew the character was very beloved and I didn't want to disappoint the readers, but as nerve-wracking as it was, once I got going and started shooting the movie, I was so physically exhausted – I was breast-feeding every three hours – and trying to juggle every-

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thing that it just became about endurance."

Isla, who is engaged to British comedian Sacha Baron Cohen, gave birth to baby Olive in October 2007. She admits her fiancé is responsible for getting her the parts that have shaped her career.

"He got me into comedy. I was auditioning for dramatic roles and not having much success, and he said to me 'You're really funny, you should do comedy'. It was those words that inspired me," she recalls.

Isla has a dream to collaborate with her husband-to-be: "I would love to work with Sacha. I think he's the funniest man in the world. It'll be amazing. But not right now. At the moment I'm not working and I don't feel like working. I'm really lucky to be in a position that I am."

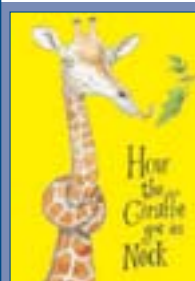
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# Escape to the coast of tranquillity

■ BY CHRIS BRITCHER

IT would be easy in this day and age to write Cornwall off as something of a victim of its own success.

It is, after all, hugely popular courtesy of warm Atlantic air and some dramatic, craggy coastlines.

But it has something of an image problem; of being awash with surfers hurtling around in Scooby Doo-style camper vans and its housing stock being snapped up by the second-home brigade. It has given fuel to its critics who say its magic is diluted by a torrent of newcomers.

Yet while in the summer the narrow streets winding down to picture-postcard fishing villages set amid ragged rocks and bathed by turquoise waters become a mass of hot metal as cars compete for a slice of tarmac, off-season it retains a charm which is quite unique.

And, despite its fame, it has enough nooks and crannies in which it remains possible to escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Take The Lugger Hotel. A weak-armed child's stone's throw from the water's edge, the 17th century inn has long been entertaining visitors. It will come as little surprise it was once a smuggler's cove – hidden as it is in a bay surrounded by steep cliffs.

It nestles at the very foot of tiny Portloe on the Roseland Peninsula in Truro, 12 miles from St Austell. Its white-washed walls gleam against the lobster pots and boats which fishermen use to land their catch just yards from the kitchen door. It feels so remote. You can't even get a mobile phone reception here; which in this day and age is praise indeed.

And it delivers a slice of style and luxury without any of the pomp and ceremony which can make some hotels almost intimidating.



Pictures CHRIS BRITCHER

**RETREAT:** The Lugger Hotel, right, is found at the water's edge in a beautiful, secluded, Cornish cove

Our room, in a converted boathouse a 30-second stroll from the main hotel building, was a mass of spotless creams and whites – the linen deep and rich, the décor perfect for the spectacular setting outside your window.

This is a walker's paradise. Coastal routes wind their way up the cliff sides, providing perfect views across the deep blue waters and breathtaking scenery. The town itself, however, offers little other than unspoilt charm.

Remarkably, locals estimate about 70 per cent of the pretty cottages in Portloe are second homes. An evening stroll to the Ship Inn nearby is done in almost complete darkness and silence as darkened homes line the five-minute route. It's a little eerie, and rather sad if truth be told.

The small shops which have long since closed their shutters for the final time have stopped being the heartbeat of the this pretty village. Now The Lugger fulfils that role;

expanding into nearby properties to offer a varied range of accommodation.

Strapping on your walking boots for a stroll is the ideal way in which to build up an appetite for a meal in the low-ceiling, wooden-beamed restaurant. It is truly a gourmet delight. The daily changing menu boasts fresh caught fish and seasonal vegetables that almost throb with taste and freshness.

There's even a growing range of spa treatments on offer for the guest wanting to indulge in the ultimate in relaxation. An hour being pampered amid the candles and music before taking in the clean, crisp air outside is very much the icing on the top of a quite wonderful, self-indulgent cake.

What's more, with the Eden Project just 40 minutes drive away and miles of coastline to explore, Cornwall may just need to go back on the must-visit map. And The Lugger should be the must-book hotel.



## Travel details

Chris Britcher was a guest of The Lugger Hotel. He stayed in a deluxe room with sea views and a daily rate of £250 for double occupancy and inclusive of breakfast, three-course dinner, and VAT. Special weekend break rates are available, as are three night midweek rates.

The Elemis range of spa treatments start at £40 and include special treatments for men and women.

For details of the hotel and full details of costs see [www.luggerhotel.com](http://www.luggerhotel.com) or call 01872 501322.



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## PROPERTY NEWS

### Wide-ranging market study gets under way

THE Office of Fair Trading has launched its market study into home buying and selling, following two months of discussion with interested parties on its scope.

The study will take a comprehensive look at the market for home buying and selling services. It will consider:

- Competition on price and quality between service providers, principally estate agents.
- Prospects for entry by new business models, including internet-based.
- Whether the regulatory framework provides the right balance between protecting consumers and ensuring the market remains open to competition and innovation.
- Relationships between estate agents and other service providers such as mortgage brokers, surveyors, solicitors and other professional advisors.

The study will cover the UK, while recognising the significant differences in how the market works in Scotland.

Heather Clayton, senior director of infrastructure, said: "We need to ensure consumers receive a good service when buying or selling a home, from a market that is competitive, innovative and well-functioning. We have had constructive discussions with interested parties and are starting the study with a clear understanding of the key issues."

The OFT intends to complete the study before the end of 2009. For more details, visit [www.of.gov.uk/homes](http://www.of.gov.uk/homes).

### Average house price falls £28K in a year

THE average house price is now £156,753, down almost £28,000 on January 2008. This represents an annual decrease of 15.1 per cent.

In London, the average price fell 14.1 per cent annually to £306,183.

It is the 17th month in a row where the annual rate of change has fallen, in contrast with 21 months of uninterrupted increases in the average annual rate of change between December 2005 and August 2007.

The most up-to-date figures available show that during November 2008 the number of completed house sales fell by 67 per cent to 33,404 from 100,730 in November 2007.

In London only 3,504 house sales were completed in November 2008 compared with 12,719 in November 2007 – a fall of 72 per cent. For more information and to view the latest statistics, visit [www.landregistry.gov.uk/houseprices/](http://www.landregistry.gov.uk/houseprices/)



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# Agents confirm growing first-time buyer activity

■ BY CHRIS MURPHY

FIRST-time buyers are edging out of their shells and tentatively beginning to venture into the offices of estate agents.

They are the key to any property recovery. If first-time buyers are not buying, chains simply can't develop, let alone be completed.

But now the National Association of Estate Agents is reporting many of its members are seeing more first timers.

All that needs to happen now is for the banks to lose their Scrooge image.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown has said he wants to see the end of 100 per cent mortgages, which will make life even harder for first-time buyers, who will have to show their deposit funds have not been borrowed and are pure savings.

Mr Brown has also been told stamp duty should be scrapped for all but the most expensive properties to ease the burden on new buyers.

And Northern Rock, virtually nationalised this time last year, has announced it will be lending up to £14 billion over the next two years – more welcome news for the market in general.

Peter Bolton King, chief executive of the estate agents' association, said: "Our figures show there is huge demand for property from first-time buyers, who are increasingly visiting estate agents, registering their interest and searching for property."

"These figures demonstrate they are being frustrated at the final hurdle because lenders are not making mortgages available."

"First-time buyers are crucial, not only to the housing market, but the entire economy. More must be done to help them."

And John Oakley, the chairman of the association's east Kent branch, said he too was seeing the start of some sort of recovery.

He said: "Locally there is a marked increase in first-time buyers registering with our member firms."

"With the reduction in house prices, they perceive now is a good time to get on the housing ladder."

"Houses are now affordable, but first-time buyers are being frustrated by the difficulties in getting a mortgage, with lenders looking for ever larger deposits."

"If the first-time buyers are not helped and encouraged to take that first step, the rest of the market cannot get moving. Banks and building societies must stop putting obstacles in the way and start to release funds."

"The housing market is one of the main drivers of the economy and when houses start selling it has a positive knock-on effect to many other sections of the community."



OPEN DOOR: Falling prices are enticing first-time-buyers after years of being unable to get a foothold on the ladder



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## Broadstairs

- Fantastic Location
- 4 Bedrooms
- Field views

.....£350,000



## St Nicholas-at-Wade

- Extremely Deceiving. Immaculately Presented
- Popular village. Cul De Sac. 3 Bedrooms
- tandem garage & single garage. corner plot

.....£340,000



## Broadstairs

- Three bed 1930's detached home
- Sunny rear garden
- Off street parking & garage

.....£287,000



## Ramsgate

- 3 bedrooms
- Huge plot
- No chain

.....£250,000



## Birchington

- 2 bed luxury retirement apartment
- Central to village amenities & beach
- Safe & secure within a friendly environment

.....£231,950



## Manston

- 3 Beds, Good size lounge/diner
- Rural location with views over fields
- Offering vacant possession

.....£199,950



## Minnis Bay

- Individual 3 storey home. Close to the sea front
- 3 bedrooms. Family bathroom, shower room
- Lounge on the first floor. Garage. ORP

.....£185,000



## Minnis Bay

- 3 Dble Beds. 2 Separate Reception rooms
- Close to Minnis Bay Beach
- Garage en bloc. Park area over the road

.....£174,995



## Margate

- Recently built town house
- Four bedrooms
- En-suite bathroom

.....OIEO £165,000



## Ramsgate

- Fantastic Family Home
- Ideally Located for Station
- Three Double Bedrooms

.....OIEO £160,000



## Cliftonville

- 5 Bedrooms
- Needs Some Work
- No Chain

.....£149,950



## Birchington

- 2 bedroom purpose built apartment
- Allocated parking & no onward chain!
- Approx. 150 yards from the sea

.....£129,950



## Ramsgate

- Retire by the sea!
- Ground floor warden assisted apartment
- Lovely gardens, 100 yards from the seafront

.....£124,995



## Westbrook

- Terrific extended family home!
- Lovely accommodation including stunning kitchen
- All double glazed & centrally heated. No chain!

.....£199,950



## Margate

- What a great buy!
- 3 beds modernised home
- Double glazed & gas heating

.....£119,950



## Birchington

- Central Retirement Apartment
- First Floor 1 Bedroom. Lift Service
- Communal Facilities

.....£99,995



## Margate

- Centrally located flat
- Only 5 years old
- Good condition, off street parking

.....£79,995



## Birchington

- Close proximity of Sea Front & village high street
- 4 Bedrooms, Good size lounge/Diner, Conservatory
- Utility Room. MUST BE VIEWED

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## MOTORS NEWS



### New car gives insight into a hybrid future

HONDA opens a new front in the hybrid war in April with the all-new Insight, billed as a Ford Focus class hybrid at a conventional price.

The Insight (from £15,490) undercuts the rival Toyota Prius significantly and attacks up-spec or 'eco' versions of the Ford Focus and VW Golf.

Honda says experience has shown where savings can be cut yet the car is generously equipped, qualifies for the lowest company car Benefit in Kind bracket and caters for buyers' desire to 'go green'.



### Mitsi's Ralliart 'pocket rocket' all ready to fly

MITSUBISHI has had another crack at creating a cut-price 'pocket rocket' – a hot hatch version of its heavily revamped Colt supermini.

The new Ralliart (from £12,049) features the 'Jet Fighter' nose from the new Mitsubishi Lancer and is also available as a five-door (£12,549) as well as a three.

But it is on the road where advantages show over the old model; the 147bhp 1.5-litre turbocharged Ralliart's revised chassis and steering is far superior.

It just needs more 'hot hatch' branding.



### Seat's 'back to black' offer is pretty special

COLOUR always plays a big part in marketing for Seat.

Having made red, yellow and white popular again for performance models, the Spanish marque is championing black with the Ibiza Black special based on the five-door 1.4 Sport variant, including air con and electric windows all round.

Extras include unique front and rear bumpers, side skirts, tailgate roof spoiler, and black metallic paint – all for £12,345 and featuring a lively 83bhp 1.4-litre petrol engine with five-speed manual gearbox.



**ZOOM-ZOOM IMAGE:** The latest Mazda2 has learned an important lesson from its Mark I predecessor by staying away from MPV styling and being sleeker and more aerodynamic

# Mazda2 Mark II standing out from supermini crowd

THERE'S not much scope for grand styling within the compact dimensions of a supermini.

So the latest Mazda2 makes a refreshing change, but the Japanese marque learned the hard way how supermini buyers crave style as well as practicality; the original Mazda2 drove well enough, but erred too much towards MPV styling to be a big seller.

The current low slung, lightweight and aerodynamic three/five-door '2' (from £8,899) better suits the brand's 'Zoom-Zoom' image.

Slinky lines are not let down by the drive either; a slick gearbox and lively engines mated with a neat and tidy chassis, balancing good grip and steering with a decent ride, makes the '2' one of those rare cars that you can enjoy without a masses of power.

This bodes well for an almost obligatory hot model later on to wear the wide stripes with which you can already customise your Mazda2.

And it underlines the appeal of even our £9,399 TS five-door entry model. In its lower (74bhp) state of tune the 1.3 petrol engine is still lively but, having driven all but the 1.4 diesel engine, I would urge you to go for the

## ROAD TEST MAZDA2

BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

extra power of the 85bhp TS2 model without going the whole way to the 102bhp 1.5-litre petrol Sport (£11,799).

The 1.5 is lively alright, but does not bring much more to the party in return for costing £2,000 more than our favourite.

One thing all versions have in common though is their eco-friendliness – the Mazda2 is much lighter than its predecessor and most rivals, which means lower emissions and better fuel consumption.

The Mazda is well-equipped as standard: electric front windows, driver seat height adjustment, MP3 compatible CD radio with auxiliary jack and electric door mirrors.

The interior is also spacious and airy due to a relatively long wheelbase and low window line, while the dashboard is smart and well-arranged, with the high-mounted gearshift falling nicely to hand for a sporty drive.

The seats are comfortable for this class too, though Mazda has cut some corners with the quality and feel of cabin materials, while extra interior space, comfort and style may have been bought at the expense of the boot, 250 litres being shy of the 285-ish benchmark set by top-selling rivals.



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BY STEVE LOADER @  
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07 07 MATIZ SE Choice of Colours	£3995	NIL
07 57 MATIZ 1.0 SE 5DR Metallic Silver, A/C, PAS, E/Windows	£4895	£495
07 07 KALOS 1.4 SX 5DR Silver Metallic, A/C, Alloys, E/Windows, C/Locking	£5995	£1000
08 58 MATIZ SE AUTO Yellow, Alloys, PAS, Electric Pack	£6995	NIL
08 58 AVEO 1.2 LS 5DR Black Metallic, A/C, E/Windows, C/Locking	£7995	£1000
06 06 LACETTI 1.6 SX AUTO A/C Alloys, Imperial Blue Metallic	£5995	£1000
07 07 LACETTI 1.8 COX 4DR AUTO Silver/Green Met, Climate, Alloys, E/Windows, Multi CD	£7995	£2000
08 08 LACETTI 1.6 SX ESTATE Silver Metallic, A/C, E/Windows, C/Locking	£8995	£1000
08 58 TACUMA 1.6 SX MPV Grey Met, A/C, E/Windows	£9995	£2000
08 08 EPICA LS TD Grey Metallic, A/C, Alloys, E/Windows, C/Locking	£11995	£2000
07 07 CAPTIVA LT TO AWD 7ST AUTO Black Met, A/C, Alloys, E/Windows, Parking Sensors	£14995	£2500
08 58 EPICA LT TO AUTO Silver Met, Climate Cruise, E/Windows, Parking Sensors, Multi CD	£16995	£1000
08 58 CAPTIVA LS TO FWD Silver Met, A/C, Alloys, E/Windows	£16995	£1000



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04 54 COLF 1.6 SE Black, Air Con, Alloys, Cruise	£7995	£1000
04 54 COLF 2.0 GT TDI 140PS Climate, Alloys, Park Distance	£8495	NIL
05 05 RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE Metallic Blue, Air Con, Alloys	£5995	£1000
05 55 MITSUBISHI COLT 5DR 1.3 EQUIPPE Silver Met, A/C, Alloys, E/Windows	£5995	£1000
06 05 PEUGEOT PARTNER 1.4 TOTEM Silver Met, PAS, E/Windows	£5995	£495
04 54 MAZDA 3 5DR 1.5 AUTO Blue Metallic, A/C, PAS, E/Windows, C/Locking	£6795	£800
06 06 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S Grey, A/C, E/Windows, C/Locking, Alloys	£6995	£1000
05 55 HYUNDAI COUPE 1.6 S2 Red, Half Leather, A/C, PAS, E/Windows, Alloys, C/Locking	£6995	£1000
07 07 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 LIFE A/C 3DR Silver, Electric Windows, Central Locking	£6995	£1000
04 54 AUDI A3 SPORT FSI Black, Climate Control, Alloys	£8995	NIL
05 55 RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 CABRIO DYNAMIQUE Cold, Air Con, Panoramic Roof, Alloys, Electric Roof	£8995	£1000

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## USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

### RENAULT MEGANE



RENAULT'S second generation Mégane arrived in late 2002 and proclaimed that, unlike its predecessor, it would look and stay fresh for the full production run – it still looks good against its recent successor. The now famous rear end 'bustle' made the car stand out and buyers flocked to Renault's mid-range model despite the feature costing load space. Apart from a sassy image it offers good diesels, safety, low running costs and scorching Renaultsport versions (pictured).

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

### CITROËN C4



LIKE Renault, Citroën really needed to pull something special from the hat for its current family hatch. As a result, the C4 is a far better car than the horribly Xsara that it replaced and Citroën has given the five and three-door models a different look each; the former is sleek, futuristic and stylish while the latter has rakish coupé lines. However, both ride beautifully and share a radical and interesting interior without the irritating quirkiness of old-style Citroëns.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

### PEUGEOT 307



PEUGEOT used to trump its French rivals in this sector, but faces tougher players now. The 307, launched in 2001 and replaced in 2007, saw Peugeot acknowledge the trend towards MPV styling, opting for a high roofline, while still offering a conventional estate and MPV-like SW alternative (pictured). Along with the original three and five-door hatchbacks and a coupé cabriolet, the 307 has all the bases covered, a fine choice of turbodiesels and cheaper used prices.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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06 06	FORD FOCUS DIESEL ESTATE,1.6 TDCi Studio 5dr, Blue, 67,202 Miles	£5,000
05 55	FORD FOCUS C-MAX DIESEL ESTATE,1.6 TDCi Zetec 5dr, Blue, 42,118 Miles	£6,600
05 55	FORD FOCUS C-MAX DIESEL ESTATE,1.6 TDCi Zetec 5dr, Silver, 44,314 Miles	£7,000
05 55	FORD FOCUS ESTATE,1.6 Zetec 5dr Auto Climate Pack, Blue, 47,291 Miles	£6,500
05 55	FORD FUSION,1.4 Style 5dr Climate, Green, 29,175 Miles	£5,500
05 05	RENAULT MODUS,1.6 Dynamique 5dr, Red, 24,225 Miles	£4,500
06 56	FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK,1.8 Sport 5dr, Blue, 18,636 Miles	£7,500
05 05	FORD FUSION DIESEL ESTATE,1.6 TDCi 2 5dr, Blue, 66,995 Miles	£5,500
07 07	PEUGEOT 207 DIESEL HATCHBACK,1.6 HDi 5dr, Silver, 8,912 Miles	£8,500
05 55	FORD FIESTA DIESEL HATCHBACK,1.6 TDCi Zetec 5dr Climate, Silver, 28,887 Miles	£7,000
06 55	FORD MONDEO DIESEL HATCHBACK,2.0 TDCi 115 LX 5dr, Silver, 53,606 Miles	£6,000
05 55	VAUXHALL ASTRA HATCHBACK,1.8i 16v Life 5dr Auto, Blue, 15,120 Miles	£5,500
05 54	VAUXHALL MERIVA ESTATE,1.6 16v Enjoy 5dr, Silver, 33,266 Miles	£5,500
07 57	FORD FUSION ESTATE,1.4 Zetec 5dr Climate, Red, 5,550 Miles	£7,600
07 57	FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK,1.25 Style 3dr Climate, Black, 10,960 Miles	£6,800
07 57	FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK,1.25 Style 3dr Climate, Silver, 8,102 Miles	£7,400
04 04	FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK,1.4 Ghia 5dr Auto, Blue, 7,812 Miles	£6,000
07 07	FORD FUSION ESTATE,1.4 1 5dr Auto, Blue, 16,780 Miles	£7,800
07 57	FORD FUSION ESTATE,1.6 Zetec 5dr Auto Climate, Blue, 7,540 Miles	£8,500
06 55	FORD Focus Petrol Zetec Climate Estate 1.6 Duratec 100 PS Sta, Blue, 13,544 Miles	£7,500
06 55	FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK,2.0 Zetec 5dr Climate Pack, Red, 13,873 Miles	£7,300
07 57	FORD MONDEO,1.6 Edge 5dr, Blue, 12,021 Miles	£9,500
06 06	FORD FOCUS,1.8 TDCi LX 5dr, Black, 25,357 Miles	£7,250
04 04	FORD KA HATCHBACK,1.3i 3dr, Blue, 42,538 Miles	£3,500
06 06	FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK,1.25 Zetec 5dr, Silver, 19,438 Miles	£6,600
04 54	VAUXHALL ASTRA DIESEL HATCHBACK,1.7 CDTi 16v SXi 5dr, Silver, 82,961 Miles	£5,500
05 55	FORD FUSION ESTATE,1.6 Zetec 5dr Auto Climate, Blue, 10,685 Miles	£7,000
07 57	FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK,1.25 Style 3dr, Silver, 11,170 Miles	£6,800
07 07	FORD FOCUS DIESEL HATCHBACK,1.8 TDCi Zetec 5dr, Non standard colour, 21,500 Miles	£13,919
06 56	FORD KA HATCHBACK,1.3i Style 3dr, Blue, 19,568 Miles	£4,700
06 56	FORD KA HATCHBACK,1.3i Style 3dr, Black, 21,183 Miles	£4,700
06 55	FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK,1.6 Sport 3dr, Colorado Red, 34,352 Miles	£6,200
04 53	VAUXHALL CORSA HATCHBACK,1.0i 12v Life 3dr, Star Silver, 47,834 Miles	£6,976
03 03	FORD FOCUS,1.8 Ghia 5dr, Grey, 46,534 Miles	£4,400

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06 56	FORD KA HATCHBACK,1.3i Style 3dr Black, 21,183 Miles	£4,700
06 56	FORD KA HATCHBACK,1.3i Studio 3dr Blue, 10,779 Miles	£4,600
06 56	FORD KA HATCHBACK,1.3i Style 3dr Red, 14,675 Miles	£4,800
03 03	FORD FOCUS,1.8 Ghia 5dr Grey, 46,534 Miles	£4,400

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## Senior & General Appointments 48-51



### ETHELBERT CHILDRENS SERVICES

*"Working and Caring for Children since 1972"*

#### Speech and Language Therapist to work with Children with Challenging behaviours

We require a Speech Therapist to join our multi-disciplinary team of professionals who are committed to promote good outcomes for Looked after Children.

Applicants will be registered with the HPC and RCSLT Experience of working with clients with Learning Disabilities beneficial.

Please contact the Personnel Department for an application form: **Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ Telephone: 01843 823762**

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### Primary Care based Psychological Therapists

£21,244 – £27,492

PART TIME WORK AVAILABLE (MINIMUM 18.5 HOURS)

BASED ASHFORD

### Locum and Bank Psychological Therapists

LOCALITIES ACROSS KENT

KCA provides a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental health services. We currently require additional experienced psychological therapists to work with adult clients in our well established service providing short term therapy within GP practices.

For Ashford based roles, the number of sessions and available working days will be negotiated to meet the requirements of the service.

We are also looking for therapists to join our locum/bank list for short term therapeutic work across Kent.

We provide a strong departmental framework with regular clinical supervision, line management, monthly team meetings, effective administration, and opportunities for further training and career development.

Applicants will be required to be qualified to a minimum of Diploma level. A knowledge of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy is highly desirable and you should be eligible for BACP accreditation and/or UKCP registration. Providing focused, short term interventions, you're equally at home working independently or as part of a team.

For an informal discussion of the above posts please contact David Hayter, Operations Manager, KCA Psychological Therapy Providers on 01795 590212.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from <http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html> or email [recruitment@kca.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@kca.org.uk) Alternatively, write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference 552.

Closing date: Monday 9 March 2009.

Interview date: TBA.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all. Charity no: 292824

[www.kca.org.uk](http://www.kca.org.uk)



### Community Drug Workers

£21,244 – £27,492 + ESSENTIAL CAR USER ALLOWANCE UP TO £1,095

EAST/WEST KENT AND MEDWAY

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

Could you help chaotic injecting drug users to stabilise their use and begin shaping better lifestyles? It is a big challenge that will see you work closely with medical staff as you deliver assessment and key worker support to people accessing the substitute prescribing service.

Significant experience of working with individuals with drug related problems is desirable, along with a qualification to diploma level in a relevant area – nursing, counselling or social work for example. As for your future, there is the opportunity to make a huge impact on people's lives and help grow our services into the future working as part of a multi-disciplinary team.

For further information and an application form email [recruitment@kca.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@kca.org.uk) or write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Alternatively, call 01795 590635. Please quote ref: 553

Closing date: 13 March 2009.

Interview date: 1 April 2009.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.

[www.kca.org.uk](http://www.kca.org.uk)



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Following internal promotion we are seeking to appoint an Academy Receptionist to join our administration team. You will be energetic, enthusiastic and must feel comfortable working with young people.

The ability to work well under pressure is essential as are excellent organisational, interpersonal and communication skills.

Closing date: Friday 13th March 2009 at noon.

Further details and application forms are available on our website [www.spireacademy.com](http://www.spireacademy.com) or alternatively contact Marion Wigginton at [m.wigginton@spireacademy.com](mailto:m.wigginton@spireacademy.com) or by telephone on 01227 710392 ext 227.

Spire Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expect all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.



### Duty Manager

Ramsgate Pool

40 hours per week, shift work including weekends, evenings and early mornings.

£14,622 to £17,056 per annum dependant on experience, plus call out enhancement.

Other benefits include staff discount scheme and contributory pension scheme.

For further details including a full job description, person specification and application form please call 01843 227959.

Closing date for completed applications is Tuesday 10th March 2009

## CONTROL ROOM OPERATOR

We are looking for an energetic and enthusiastic person to join our team of Control Room Operators who assist in the running of a 24hr Vehicle Breakdown, Recovery and Transportation Company. A knowledge of the industry would be an advantage, but it is essential to have a good telephone manner, common sense and an ability to think logically under pressure.

Apply in writing, including a CV to:

Personnel Director, Eclipse Recovery Services Ltd, The Warren, Ratling Road, Ratling, Canterbury, Kent CT3 3BD

Or call 01304 843011 for an Application Form.

Closing date: 12th March 2009



## PA to CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The GSE Group are one of the South East's leading construction companies whose diverse business interests include Groundworks, Haulage, Design & Build, Development and Plant Hire.

An extremely organised, self motivated individual is required to take up the role of PA to the Chief Executive. The successful candidate will undertake a range of duties & responsibilities covering all PA, secretarial and administrative functions, including diary management and organising overseas and UK travel.

Candidates will be versatile, able to multi task, work under pressure to tight deadlines and demonstrate the ability to deal with complex and confidential issues.

Excellent IT skills and a proven record of PA experience are essential. Previous experience in a similar role is desirable.

Core hours of work are 8.30 to 5.30 Monday to Friday.

Applications with full CV to be sent to Mrs. S. Barlow, HR Manager, GSE Group, Joshua House, Crowbridge Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 0GR or [sue.barlow@gse-group.com](mailto:sue.barlow@gse-group.com).

Closing date 11 March 2009. No Agencies please

## Campaigns Manager (Web)

£26,000 DOE

Visit Kent is the official tourism marketing body for Kent. We are a public / private sector partnership with over 80 stakeholders supporting Kent's £2.5bn visitor economy.

We are seeking an energetic and experienced Web Manager to join the marketing team based in Canterbury. Working as part of a small team, you need website management and development experience to lead on our web and online marketing activity. A passion for Kent and enthusiasm for destination marketing are essential.

Visit [www.visitkentbusiness.co.uk](http://www.visitkentbusiness.co.uk) for more details of the position and application details, or contact Nina Dietrich on 01227 862787 or [nina.dietrich@visitkent.co.uk](mailto:nina.dietrich@visitkent.co.uk)

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# Career Opportunities

.....  
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Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M Campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

<b>Section Manager Construction Craft</b>	<b>08/12</b>
37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum	
<b>Section Manager Dental Nursing, Social Care and Counselling</b>	<b>06/110</b>
37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum	
<b>Acting Section Manager NVQ's and Professional Studies, Dental, Nursing, Social Care and Counselling</b>	<b>09/02</b>
37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum. Fixed Term post ending 31 July 2009	
<b>Temporary Section Manager Equine, Animal Care, Veterinary Services and Environmental Conservation</b>	<b>09/04</b>
37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum. Temporary post to cover maternity leave not to exceed 12 months.	
<b>Temporary Section Manager Equine, Animal Care, Veterinary Services and Environmental Conservation</b>	<b>09/04</b>
37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum. Temporary post to cover maternity leave not to exceed 12 months.	
<b>Lecturer Key Skills (to Automotive Engineering students)</b>	<b>07/30</b>
37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum	
<b>Supply Lecturer Community Development</b>	<b>S/CD</b>
Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
<b>Advanced Practitioner</b>	<b>02/128</b>
37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum	
<b>Business Publicity Officer</b>	<b>09/09</b>
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting at £16,914 pro rata per annum. One year fixed term post	
<b>Trainer Demonstrator Sculpture/3-D Design Art &amp; Design</b>	<b>09/08</b>
37 hrs per week, salary starting at £18,963 per annum	
<b>Trainer Demonstrator Preparation for Life &amp; Work</b>	<b>06/179</b>
37 hrs per week, 40 weeks term time, salary starting at £18,963 pro rata per annum	
<b>Temporary Enrolment Records Assistants</b>	<b>TERA (1-4)</b>
4 posts at 18.5 hrs per week, salary starting at £15,085 pro rata per annum. Temporary posts starting 01 June 09 and ending 31st October 09	
<b>Administrator - Central Administration</b>	<b>07/48</b>
27 hrs per week, salary starting at £15,085 pro rata per annum	
<b>Learning Resources Assistant – Book Shelves</b>	<b>LRCA6</b>
10 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time, salary £13,711 pro rata per annum (fixed point)	

.....  
**For an information pack please visit [www.canterburycollege.ac.uk](http://www.canterburycollege.ac.uk) or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.**

Staff benefits include:

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The closing date for the above posts is Monday 16th March 2009 at 12 noon

**CLICK**  
[www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies](http://www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies)

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01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)



## CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE ACROSS EAST KENT



Eastern and Coastal Kent

From Whitstable to Dover, Ashford to Canterbury, over 710,000 people depend on Eastern and Coastal Kent NHS and we put them at the heart of everything we do. All our staff work hard every day to improve health and wellbeing for the local community, to tackle health inequalities and to provide high quality, responsive and efficient services, both directly and through commissioning.

As one of Kent's largest employers, we aim to employ and train a world-class workforce capable of meeting our many challenges. In return for your skills and commitment we offer wide-ranging staff benefits including real investment in personalised career development, flexible working, childcare, final salary pension scheme and in-house discounts, relocation packages available, occupational sickness benefit, car scheme for eligible staff, occupational health service and enhanced maternity pay.

## PA to Head of Business Management Service ( )

**Band 3: £14,834 - £17,732 per annum**

**Ref: 767-EMY880**

**Trinity House, Eureka Business Park, Ashford**

An interesting and exciting post has arisen in Business Management Services supporting the Head of Service with secretarial and administrative duties. You will be a self motivated and able to work under your own initiative. You will have excellent secretarial/computer skills, and be able to provide general administrative support. You will need excellent communication skills dealing with NHS colleagues at all levels.

Trinity House is a modern friendly office, a short drive from the centre of Ashford. For an informal chat call Frances Outtrim on 07500108715.

Previous applicants need not apply.

**Completed applications by: 5 March 2009.**

## Sites Project Manager x2 (\*) ( )

**Band 8a: £37,106 - £44,527 per annum**

**Ref: 767-EMY897**

**Trinity House, Eureka Business Park, Ashford**

Your focus will be on supporting the development of the Sites and Facilities Management services, providing expert project management to a range of Estates-focused activities. In particular, you will develop robust systems and processes for the acquisition of new premises, as well as link with Heads of Service and lead clinicians to devise Estate solutions to meet service and clinical needs. You will also act as a source of expert specialist and professional Sites & Building related advice.

Educated to Masters Degree or equivalent, you will have a proven track record as a senior manager with practical and substantial experience in Estates-related project management. You will also have detailed knowledge of relevant legal requirements, together with an understanding of NHS financial processes. In addition, you will be effective in managing change and directing multi-disciplinary teams.

For an informal chat call David Ambrose on 01223 667705.

**Completed applications by: 12 March 2009.**

## Senior Physiotherapy Assistant (\*) ( )

**Band 4: £17,316 - £20,818 per annum pro rata**

**Ref: 767-EKB894**

**Swale Local Office, Sittingbourne**

**Part Time: 15 Hours per week**

Due to successful funding we are looking for a senior physiotherapy assistant to join our expanding service. The post will be based in the Swale Local Office, Sittingbourne, and cover the Swale locality. You will be part of an integrated multidisciplinary team including nurses, care managers, occupational therapists and speech and language therapists.

The successful candidate will provide support to the Senior Physiotherapist as well as holding their own case load. We offer strong support from both the multidisciplinary team and physiotherapy service.

Due to the nature of this role, it is essential that the post holder holds a full UK driving license and have access to a suitable vehicle for business purposes. An enhanced CRB check will also be completed.

For an informal discussion or visit please contact Tony West Senior Physiotherapist or Jackie Smith Team Manager on 01795 418760.

**Closing date: 12 March 2009.**

A comprehensive corporate induction programme is provided at the commencement of employment.

Please ensure that you check your NHS Jobs account regularly in order to see if you have been successful in obtaining an interview.

(\*) Employment in this post is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau

( ) Car owner/driver essential, subject to the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act (1995)

**For further information and to apply, please visit [www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk](http://www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk)**

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Required for our autism specific service in Folkestone. NVQ qualification preferred although not essential.

Please call Tom on 01303 251618/01303 259561 for more details.  
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## Assessors (Variable Hours)

Ref: S2167

Folkestone/Ashford/Dover

Closing date: 06/03/09

With campuses in Ashford, Folkestone and Dover, South Kent College offers a wide range of courses from Entry Level to Level 7 and caters for over 10,000 students of all ages. We are currently recruiting for Assessors in all vocational areas including Catering, Construction, Motor Vehicle, Engineering, Business Administration and Customer Care.

Main duties include assessing workplace students up to NVQ Level 3 and Key Skills Level 2, supporting and guiding candidates in portfolio building, 'on' and 'off-the-job' training for Work Based Training programmes, and acting as a mentor to students. You will hold a minimum of NVQ Level 3 or equivalent in your relevant specialism, and the A1 Assessor Award or equivalent (formally D32/33) as well as having a minimum of three years recent and relevant experience in your field.

For further information please contact the Human Resources Department on 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answerphone), email: [humanresources@southkent.ac.uk](mailto:humanresources@southkent.ac.uk) or visit [www.southkent.ac.uk](http://www.southkent.ac.uk). Please submit a CV in the first instance, with a covering letter detailing which specialism you are interested in applying for.

All posts are subject to a disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all employees to share this commitment. Applications are welcome from suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality or religion.



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**An application pack is available from the school.**

**The closing date for applications is Friday, 13 March 2009**  
Interviews will be held week commencing Monday, 16 March 2009

## Deal Town Council

Town Hall, High Street, Deal, Kent CT14 6BB Tel No: 01304 361999

### TWO VACANCIES

#### Deputy Premises Officer

**20 hours per week worked flexibly. Salary £6.53 per hour**

To appoint a Deputy Premises Officer to assist in an expanding area of work within the council. Embracing, booking and invoicing plus subsequent attendance at events, along with caretaking and the overseeing of the council's allotments. The post holder will need to be flexible as much of the work takes place in the evenings and at weekends. The successful candidate needs to be physically fit and should ideally have some relevant experience as well as being conversant with Microsoft IT packages. The council seeks to be a quality employer but parts of the Town Hall are difficult to access for the disabled.

**Closing date for applications:**

**12 noon Friday 20 March 2009** – Interviews will be on the morning of Friday 27 March 2009

#### Deal Saturday Market Officer

**Part Time post – 10 hours per week. Salary £7.34 per hour**  
(This involves unsocial hour working)

To appoint a Market Officer who will oversee an increasingly busy market and has to work mostly on their own initiative to agreed protocols. A flexible approach to working hours is needed as well as a patient attitude to stallholders and public. Apart from the actual market day, during the week the duties require the officer to be available via a mobile phone to deal with enquiries and stallholder bookings. Record keeping is an important part of the duties. The post holder will need to be physically fit and ideally conversant with Microsoft IT packages.

**Closing date for applications:**

**12 noon Friday 27 March 2009** – Interviews will be on Friday 3 April 2009

**For an application pack contact:**

Deal Town Council, Deal Town Hall, High Street, Deal, Kent CT14 6BB  
Tel: 01304 361999 or Email: [dealtowncouncil@deal.gov.uk](mailto:dealtowncouncil@deal.gov.uk)



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### MAINTENANCE FITTER

Duties will include a wide range of tasks including planned preventative maintenance, unplanned repairs and new installations. You will work with a small team of colleagues on a continental shift pattern (2x12 hr days, 2 x 12 hr nights, 4 off). The following qualifications and experience are appropriate, but alternatives may be acceptable. Apprenticeship served, City & Guilds in Mechanical Engineering, some electrical knowledge and experience advantageous but not essential. You'll enjoy a full range of employee benefits. To apply please send your CV to HR Department, Fuji Seal Europe Ltd, Scimitar Close, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0RJ or alternatively you can email to [jobs@uk.fujiseal.com](mailto:jobs@uk.fujiseal.com). Previous applicants need not apply.

**Closing date: 9 March 2009**

**Strictly no agencies.**

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## Senior Practitioner Ref: CA0463

**Grade: PO2 £31,348 - £40,220 per annum**

**Hours: 37 per week**

**Location: Elaine Centre, Strood, Rochester**

Medway is continuing to move forward the development of its Children's Services. As part of our recent restructuring of Children's Services we have merged our Looked After Children's Team with our Leaving Care Team. We are committed to putting children at the centre of our service. We have an exciting vision for the future that will provide fully integrated services, which emphasise partnership and participation.

We're looking for talented and enthusiastic people to join our exciting journey. We can offer you an environment in which new ways of thinking and working are warmly welcomed together with the opportunity to be involved in unique and creative projects and extend your skills and interests to meet the needs of young people. You will take responsibility for a small caseload of complex cases. As well as setting the standard for colleagues to follow, you will supervise the work of other members of the team and actively coach, mentor and develop them. You can expect excellent training, career opportunities, final salary pension, generous annual leave, flexible working hours and much more.

We would preferably like you to have

- a post qualifying award
- a practice teacher/assessor award
- a proven track record of developing and maintaining high standards of social work practice through supervision

For more information please call Jo Kavanagh (Team Manager) on 01634 335652 or by email [joanne.kavanagh@medway.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.kavanagh@medway.gov.uk)

Any offer of appointment will be subject to a Criminal Records Bureau enhanced disclosure.

All applicants must be registered, or in the process of registering with GSCC.

Closing date: 13 March 2009.

For an application pack or to apply visit [www.medway.gov.uk](http://www.medway.gov.uk)

or phone 01634 333333 Mon to Fri 8am – 8pm, Sat 9am – 1pm

or 01634 332843 24-hour answerphone.

Alternatively email [jobs@medway.gov.uk](mailto:jobs@medway.gov.uk) quoting the reference.

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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### 'Human capital' seen as key to firms' efficiency

ATTRACTING and retaining skilled employees is now seen as the most important source of using trade resources efficiently for UK businesses, according to new research.

In a poll of almost 200 senior executives, 83 per cent felt that in light of the current skills shortage, human capital was the key factor in having an edge over their competitors.

The survey, conducted for professional services group KPMG by Opinion Leader Research, found that the current skills shortage was the most pressing issue facing British organisations.

Kathy Lloyd, head of people services at KPMG in Kent, said: "The success of the UK increasingly relies on our ability to function as a highly skilled, hi-tech economy and employers are right to be concerned about the difficulty in finding staff equipped with both basic and more advanced skills."

According to the survey results, nearly three-quarters (74 per cent) of companies surveyed felt that the UK fell short in terms of skills, particularly literacy and numeracy.

Staff retention was cited as the second key people-issue that UK firms expect to face in the future and businesses are considering a raft of measures to counter this.

Most popular of these would be training and development (62 per cent), finding ways to retain top performers (61 per cent) and leadership development (59 per cent).

### Women's Day invitation

SOUTH East businesswomen have been invited to a lunch on Thursday, March 12, to mark International Women's Day.

Organised as part of the South East England Development Agency (Seeda) Women's Enterprise Ambassadors Network, the speaker will be Caroline Marsh, who recently took part in Channel 4's Secret Millionaire series.

The lunch is at Nutfield Priory, Redhill. International Women's Day is a global event to mark the social, political and economic achievements of women.

Phone Joanna Brown at Prowse & Company on 01372 373386 or email [joanna@prorowse.co.uk](mailto:joanna@prorowse.co.uk).

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Julie Maddocks asks: "In business, is small really beautiful?" Search 'crunch'

# Act now to sustain a healthy bottom line

■ BY TONY PATEY

BUSINESS chiefs have been told to grasp the nettle and embrace sustainable commercial activity - or face the Government imposing regulations upon them.

An audience of high-powered county businesspeople were at last week's Institute of Directors/Business Link breakfast on sustainability in business.

David Boomer, head of energy efficiency and climate change at the IoD, said: "Sustainability is a business agenda which has been coming of age for some time, but it has to be a fundamental part of business."

"You can't talk about it without energy efficiency and climate change. The UK, for the future, has a huge skills gap. We need innovative sustainable skills with clear leadership and investment."

"If business doesn't respond, Government will regulate. We need to develop business and skills capacity."

He was speaking at the conference centre in Sittingbourne's Kent Science Park, a fitting venue because the park's senior management, led by director James Speck, is also keen to develop skills for the area and beyond.

He was introduced by Kent IoD chairman Frazer Thompson, who said: "Sustainability is something we can do without sacrificing winning new business."

Mr Thompson runs the Chapel Down wines group at Tenterden and he said it recently took a look at its own carbon footprint - and a half was in the wooden posts in the vineyard. They have since been swapped for metal ones.

Andrew Fletcher, managing director of Carbon Control energy conservation company, said: "From speaking to many business owners and managers it became apparent to me that businesses are in fact concerned about



**SEE THE LIGHT:** Sustainability and hi-tech skills are essential to the UK's future prosperity, delegates were told

reducing their energy consumption, costs and increasing their sustainability. However they sometimes lack the knowledge, expertise and time to tackle these issues."

He said businesses could access national and local grants - as well as support such as the Carbon Trust's interest-free loans - and they should also check out enhanced capital allowance schemes.

Erica Russell, Business Link's market development manager (sustainable business) said a company's green credentials should encompass its issues with energy, water, waste, raw materials, legislation and transport.

Paul Anderson, who runs Stone Circle Livery between Woodchurch and High Halden, which claims to be the UK's first and

only fully organic livery yard, gave a mini case study and stressed the need to be committed, determined and innovative.

High quality commands a premium rate and with the credit squeeze some customers left and a long waiting list vanished, he said.

However, he increased his rates but also increased the amount he had been setting aside for environmental improvements from each customer as well.

"Nothing happened - then the emails started to come through. It was a very worrying moment for us."

"From being in a dire situation a few months ago we are getting the customers coming back. It has put us on the national and international stage - we've had amazing PR."



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ON FIRE: Cliftonville easily swept Burnt Ash aside Picture IGOR KUPCO

## Vintage Ville produce best hockey for years

CLIFTONVILLE were impressive 4-1 winners at Burnt Ash III on Saturday.

Ville took the lead through Alex Taylor after a clever move, but as they pressed for a second goal they were unexpectedly pegged back when keeper Dan Sheppard was beaten from six yards.

Ville shrugged off the blow and restored their lead when James Perks started and finished a move down the right.

Burnt Ash's predictable, direct approach made them easy pickings in

### HOCKEY

the second half and just two minutes after the restart Mark Tiley made it 3-1.

Ville produced some of their best hockey for years and in the closing stages Taylor added his second to complete the scoring.

Ville's Ladies had an even more convincing win over Marden Russets.

Toni Lawrence set up the opener with a superb switch to Kirsty Sparks and, though her shot was saved,

Tracy Ballard turned in the rebound. Ballard struck again to make it 2-0 at the break and two second-half goals emphasised Ville's superiority.

Men's III thrashed Gore Court V 11-0, scoring three goals in the first ten minutes.

It was 6-0 by the break and some two-touch hockey in the second half was rewarded with five more goals.

The IVs, however, suffered a 3-0 loss to Gravesham, meaning there was no fairy-tale return for Clive Jones, who made his first appearance in 10 years.

## Gate reserves close in on Thamesmead

MARGATE Reserves put pressure on the leaders in Kent League Division One with a 4-2 win over Dover Athletic reserves.

Ollie Gray put Gate in front on 15 minutes with a strike from Ollie Gray. The lead was extended minutes later through Shane Brown, who capitalised on an error by the Dover goalkeeper and slotted the ball into the net.

Dover pulled a goal back just before the break, taking advantage of a Margate defensive mistake.

A penalty from Elliot Payne restored the two-goal lead, but Dover kept plugging away and scored a second late on.

Margate wrapped up the win with a strike from Curtis Winnet, which leaves them four points behind league-leaders Thamesmead Town.

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KOS Media go behind the scenes at the Brands Hatch 2009 launch day

## Rendall romps to isle 20-mile victory

JULIAN Rendall won the annual Thanet 20-mile road race, finishing inside two hours, on Sunday.

Rendall, competing for Tonbridge Athletics Club, completed the difficult course along the Thanet seafront in one hour, 53 minutes and 21 seconds.

Andrew Green, representing Dartford Road Runners, finished second, five minutes behind Rendall. Invicta East Kent's Mark Wilkins crossed the line in third.

Christopher Caps was the best performer from Thanet Road Runners, crossing the line in 33rd place in two hours, 18 minutes and 48 seconds.

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Picture DAVE STEWART

CHANCE: Jay May almost gave Ramsgate the lead as a much-improved second-half display at Southwood saw Jimmy Ward's team score late on to beat Essex visitors Billericay

# Rams move into safety zone thanks to Royston

A LATE goal from Ryan Royston lifted Ramsgate clear of the Ryman Premier Division relegation zone on Saturday.

The former Tonbridge and Maidstone player – a prolific scorer for a centre-half – scored with just eight minutes left to maintain the Rams' unbeaten run at Southwood in 2009.

The first half was an uninspiring affair with neither keeper really being tested, though Billericay's Tony Tucker had to be alert to keep out a swirling 25-yard free-kick from the dangerous Des Byrne.

The home side also had two penalty appeals waved away, the first coming when a handball shout was turned down and the second when play was waved on after an apparent trip on Tom Tsangarides.

Moments before the interval, Billericay's Dave Wareham wafted a shot wide from the edge of the area, meaning the first half ended goalless.

Ramsgate looked a stiffer proposition in the second half and after just four minutes they almost went in front when Warren Schulz

### FOOTBALL

BY YOURTHANET REPORTER

#### Ramsgate 1

Royston 82

#### Billericay 0

threaded a pass through to Jay May, only for his shot to be tipped over by Tucker from point-blank range.

On the hour, substitute Steffan Ball hit the bar from 20 yards, but an offside flag was raised and the visitors dragged themselves back into the game.

Joe Flack's effort went just over and Wayne Semanshia shot straight at Jamie Turner from six yards out.

Ramsgate finally broke the deadlock in the 82nd minute.

Simon Pettit hurled a long throw into the box

#### Ramsgate starting XI



Subs used: Schulz (Byrne 39), Ball (Hadden 55),

and captain Nick Davis nodded the ball back across goal. Royston reacted quickest, scrambling the ball over the line.

Despite the referee playing four minutes of injury time, Billericay were unable to convert their late pressure into goals.

The result lifts Ramsgate to 16th in the table, two points clear of the relegation zone, although they have played more games than all the sides below them.

• The Rams face a tricky trip to Carshalton on Saturday.

# Gate's poor finishing returns to haunt them

## FOOTBALL

BY YOURTHANET REPORTER

### Wealdstone 2

Haule 54, Martin 75

### Margate 0

A FAMILIAR inability to take chances haunted Margate on Saturday as they slipped to their first defeat in four games at Grosvenor Vale.

Gate remain in the relegation zone as a consequence and manager Terry Yorath will rue a crucial refereeing decision moments before half-time when a James Gregory header was disallowed.

The visitors made a strong start, passing the ball around despite a bobbly pitch that was more suited to a route-one approach.

But a lack of ruthlessness in front of goal proved costly and both Margate's leading scorers were thwarted early on.

Ryan Peters saw an effort flash wide, while Wayne Wilson had a spectacular effort blocked by a defender.

Wealdstone then put the ball in Pat Mullin's net, but Margate were spared when an offside flag was raised.



**CHALKED OFF:** James Gregory's header was disallowed for an alleged push moments before half-time

Just before the break Gregory appeared to have put the visitors ahead, but his effort was

### Margate starting XI



Subs used: Pratt (Taylor 60), McGibbon (Gregory 67), Ohakam (Wheatley 74)

ruled out for an innocuous-looking foul on the home keeper.

Gate went close early in the second period when Luke Wheatley whipped in a cross that Jo Taylor just failed to steer on target, but in the 54th minute they fell behind.

Danny Spendlove lost possession and the loose ball ran to Davis Haule, who made it 1-0.

The lead was doubled with a quarter of an hour to play when Callum Martin volleyed in while the Margate defence waited for an off-side flag that never came.

Ben Alexander then missed a glorious opportunity for the Stones, although a 3-0 scoreline would have flattered the home side.

Results elsewhere went against the visitors, meaning Margate dropped to third-from-bottom in the Ryman Premier Division ahead of Tuesday's trip to Canvey.

• For a report on Tuesday night's Canvey Island v Margate game and all the latest news from Hartsdown Park, visit [www.yourthanet.co.uk](http://www.yourthanet.co.uk).

## FOOTBALL



**DISAPPOINTED:** Margate manager Terry Yorath

## Yorath: ref justice was not to blame

IF Terry Yorath was aggrieved by a couple of refereeing decisions that went against his side at Wealdstone on Saturday, the Margate manager wasn't about to use them to excuse a performance that was at best mediocre and at worst abject.

"I was very disappointed, really," he told Yourthanet. "To be fair, we had a perfectly good goal disallowed just before half-time and one of their goals was offside, but we didn't really play at all."

The frustration for Yorath was heightened by the fact that Wealdstone looked a very beatable side and that Margate have lost momentum after taking seven points from their last three games, having beaten Tooting & Mitcham and Boreham Wood at Hartsdown Park and drawn at Hastings.

### Struggled

"In the first half they [Wealdstone] were nowhere to be seen, really," he said. "I'm more disappointed with the way we played, though. We've been on a decent run lately and we'd hope to build on that."

The former Wales manager struggled to find any positives from the game and no player was spared criticism.

"I couldn't single out one of them," he said. "The only positive thing was that it gave me something to have a go at before Tuesday's game with Canvey."

Despite the poverty of Margate's performance, the visitors might have snatched the points had James Gregory not been harshly penalised moments before the break after scoring what appeared a legitimate goal.

Yorath confirmed he had questioned the referee about the decision but said they had agreed to differ.

"He said it was for a push on the keeper, but he was nowhere near him," said a rueful Yorath. "I also thought the scorer of their second goal was four yards offside, but there you go, it happens and we've got to move on."



**ON THE UP?** Geraint Jones hopes to bat at number three

## Three the magic number for Jones

## CRICKET

KENT wicketkeeper Geraint Jones is eyeing a place in the club's top order next season as a way of proving his form and putting himself back in contention for an England spot.

The 32-year-old finished the end of last season batting at number three for Kent, where he scored a sparkling 91 against Lancashire at Aigburth.

A chance to bat at first wicket down the order is a possibility again this year and, having resumed training just two months after the end of the disappointing 2008 campaign, Jones is hoping to hit the ground running.

"I'm keen on getting off to a good start because I felt good batting at the end of last year. I didn't want that to sit for six months, so I felt I would do some work and push for the new season," he said.

"I have based my winter practice around the idea I may bat at three. I enjoyed it last year and had some success there. I was given the inclination that there is the potential to start there again this year. We will wait until the season starts to see what decisions have been made."

# Dolphins beat Birchington to leap into four-point lead

## THANET SUNDAY LEAGUE

DOLPHINS moved four points clear at the top of the Premier Division table as a goal from Ross Howells gave them a 1-0 win over third-placed Birchington United.

Second-placed Albion Athletic lost ground on the leaders as they were held to a 3-3 draw at Albys United.

Danny Twyman, Richard Spillet and Steven Wells all hit the target for the visitors, but goals from Adam Lavender, Jamie Lees and Martin Rattigan earned United a point, although Athletic still have a game in hand.

The two teams below Birchington both won and fourth-placed South Eastern are now just a point back, following a 4-1 win over Lloyds McCarthy.

Goals from Alan Robertson, Andrew Bedford and a double from Graham Birkett sank Lloyds, although Luke Farmer managed a consolation effort.

Active also stayed in the hunt for third spot with a 1-0 win over Fayreless Hotel, Liam Morris scoring the game's only goal.

Dormans moved above fellow strugglers Thanet Fascias on goal difference by beating them 4-2 away. Chris Flint's double for the home side was cancelled out by goals from Dominic Morgan, Sean Pretty and a double from Stephen Laming.

In Division One, Barnaby closed the gap on leaders Westgate by thrashing FC Thanet United 8-0 away.

Chris Bodley and Michael Belsey both scored doubles and Chris Bygraves, Darren



**CLOSING IN:** South Eastern claimed an important win

Atkinson, Isaac Redpath and Ryan Birch all hit the target.

Barnaby are now just two points behind Westgate after the leaders were held to a 2-2 draw by Saunders.

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